

Britain cuts contacts with Russia to show its anger over Afghanistan

Britain is to end high-level and ministerial contacts with the Soviet Union, Lord Carrington told the House of Lords. Announcing a package of measures in response to Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the

Foreign Secretary said that military exchanges would be cancelled, BBC broadcasts to Russia and Afghanistan would be stepped up and a trade agreement with Moscow would not be renewed when it expired

next month. In the Commons, Mr Francis Pym, the Defence Secretary, told MPs that a £1,000m programme to provide British Polaris missiles with a new warhead was near completion.

Export credits and military links cut

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Ministers last night stepped up pressure on the Soviet Union by saying that the BBC and TV would not be expected to cover the Moscow Olympics if the Government succeeded in persuading British athletes not to attend.

This was the Government's formal interpretation of the BBC and ITA announcement yesterday, which said they had decided to act jointly in any review of their Olympics coverage. The statement added: "This review would take account of any changes in the nature of the Games or of British participation in them."

The television issue was not included in the Government's formal announcement in Parliament of a previously well-advertised package of anti-Soviet trade and propaganda measures, including the addition of an extra 30 minutes daily of BBC broadcasting to the Soviet Union and its new satellite.

Package 'balanced and realistic'

Although the Opposition broadly approved the measures, Mr Callaghan and Shadow Ministers are privately scathing of the Government's attempts to shift the Olympics, efforts they regard as futile.

Although Ministers described the package as balanced and realistic, there was, after President Carter's bold State of the Union message, a sense of let-down in both Commons and Lords after the cautious announcements made by Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, and his deputy, Sir Ian Gilmour, the Lord Privy Seal.

It was made clear that Britain has no plans for a military call-up or registration, and that no need is seen for reestablishing a permanent British military presence in the Gulf. But Lord Carrington did announce that British land and sea forces, as well as naval forces, would be deployed there periodically.

The main British measures were:

1. Non-renewal of the credit agreement with the Soviet Union which expires next month. Under this agreement, export credits were granted on terms more favourable than those available to other countries. In future, export credit would not be more favourable than the "international consensus" but this was a new assumption that other Western

countries would do the same.

2. Tighter application, with other countries, of Cocom rules for the transfer of sensitive technology to the Soviet Union; 3. No EEC food sales to the Soviet Union to replace, directly or indirectly, supplies denied by the United States. Britain is also pressing for an end to subsidized sales of butter, meat and sugar; 4. high-level and ministerial contacts with the Soviet Union. Military exchanges are to be cancelled including a planned Russian naval visit. The Government will also avoid and discourage cultural and other exchanges, such as a Red Army Choir visit, that might give an impression of business as usual.

5. An increase in BBC external broadcasts to the Soviet Union and Afghanistan.
6. Plans to move the summer Olympics from Moscow, if necessary, to several other venues, which the Government hopes is "not beyond the capacity of the 104 countries which condemned the Soviet Union in the United Nations". Carrington said: "For the Games now to be held in Moscow would appear to condone Soviet aggression abroad and repression at home."

The Government wanted to make it clear that Britain would not take steps that would hurt itself more than the Russians and, above all, would not cause a war. Ministers do not believe it is 1939.

The statement declared: Both East and West live on one planet. The consequences of serious miscalculation could be disastrous for very many of its inhabitants.

Search for arms agreements

It went on: "It is right that the Russians should feel the strength of our disapproval. That should help them avoid miscalculation in future. But it is also right that we should where possible, continue the search for arms control agreements, commercially justified trade, and other arrangements of mutual benefit."

Although there had to be suspension of normalcy so long as the Russians behaved outrageously, the statement concluded by saying: "In the long run both we and the Russians need a sound East-West relationship."

To complaints of inaction by Continued on page 6, col 4

Gasps from Labour at £1,000m Polaris plan

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Defence, last night announced to the Commons the near completion of a programme costing £1,000m, which will provide Britain's Polaris missiles with a new warhead to maintain the full effectiveness of Britain's strategic nuclear deterrent into the 1990s.

The programme, code-named Chevaline, was begun during the last Conservative Administration under Mr Edward Heath and continued during Mr James Callaghan's Labour Government.

The development had been cloaked in secrecy until yesterday's announcement, which will cause considerable embarrassment to the Labour leadership.

Mr Pym was quick to acknowledge the way in which the last Labour Government continued the programme unabated despite continual and strong criticism of Britain's nuclear strategy from a considerable section of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Major and complex development

It is interesting to note that although Mr Callaghan took the decision to continue the Chevaline programme for a new warhead, the May general election manifesto states that in 1974, the Labour Party renounced any intention of moving towards the production of a new generation of nuclear weapons or a successor to the Polaris nuclear force.

There were gasps from the Labour back benches as the Secretary of State told the House of the cost of the programme. He told MPs that he could not go into detail, but the programme was now at a stage where he could properly make public more information about it.

It involved the "major and complex development" of the front end or warhead of the Polaris missile. It included changes to the fire control system and involved advanced penetration aids and the ability to manoeuvre the payload in space as the missile approached its target.

The main significance of the new development was that it would confuse the enemy defences and enable it more readily to reach its target. Mr Pym explained that the result of the programme was not the same as the multiple independent reentry vehicle system or MIRV, which enabled the war-

head to split up into numerous missiles as it approached the target. Neither was it a vital development to Britain's nuclear deterrent.

Coming immediately after Sir Ian Gilmour's announcement of the Government's reactions to the Afghanistan crisis, it seemed clear to many in the House that the decision to announce the new programme was meant as a warning to the Soviet Union that the British nuclear strike force was still capable of providing an effective deterrent.

Mr Pym told the House that the new warhead had successfully passed a series of flight trials and the development was close to completion. Deployment would begin soon thereafter and that would maintain the full effectiveness of Britain's strategic deterrent into the 1990s.

That would enable Britain's Polaris force to remain fully effective for at least another decade. The programme, he said, had been funded and managed entirely by the United Kingdom with the full cooperation of the United States Government, including the use of certain United States facilities for trials and tests.

Some American companies had been employed but most of the work in industry had gone to Britain.

He estimated that the total capital cost of a new system could be in the range of £4,000m to £5,000m at today's prices spread over 10 to 15 years with the peak spending rate coming towards the end of the 1980s. Mr Pym added that the new system would be unlikely to absorb much more than 5 per cent of the defence budget on average.

Without precedent in history

Mr Pym said the Polaris force possessed immensely formidable striking power and was effectively invulnerable to pre-emptive attack. In the decade or more of its operation there had never been a moment's interruption in its standing readiness on station.

Britain and its Nato allies were dealing with possible situations that would be without precedent in history and of unique peril. The Government believed that Britain's nuclear effort made a key contribution to the security of the island, which no other member was able to make.

Parliamentary report, page 8



Vigil in the snow: These schoolgirls show their grief in the snow outside the hospital in Tehran where Ayatollah Khomeini has been taken from his headquarters in Qom. He is undergoing what his aides describe as "a medical check-up".

The girls and other Iranians were reassured later yesterday when the Ayatollah made a radio broadcast from his bed assuring them that he was not seriously ill and urging people to vote in today's presidential elections.

The 79-year-old revolutionary leader was admitted to the intensive care ward of Mehdi Rezaei Hospital on Wednesday for treatment of an unspecified heart ailment. His doctors said that his condition was satisfactory and that there was no cause for concern.

The Ayatollah was well enough to stand and pray, an aide told the crowd of about 600 outside the hospital. "My illness is not important," Ayatollah Khomeini said in a firm but subdued voice during his 10-minute message which was broadcast repeatedly on the state radio.

"My condition is not bad. Perhaps extra formalities have been provided for me which I am not used to," he said, adding that his physicians would do better to pay more attention to poor Iranians living in slums and tents.

In Panama a spokesman for the deposed Shah of Iran said yesterday that the strengthened security forces around him on the island of Contadora were for his protection, not his arrest.

Leading article, page 15

Congress behind Mr Carter but call-up step stirs objections

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Jan 24

The reactions in the United States to President Carter's State of the Union message follow predictable lines. The most vocal opposition comes from survivors of the anti-war movement and pacifists, who object strongly to the proposed reinforcement of the Selective Service system.

That is not conscription, which Mr Carter said he hoped to avoid, but a first step towards it. Opponents are against any obligatory military service, whether or not it involves fighting.

If conscription were reintroduced, men, and perhaps women, would be selected by lottery. There would be few of the exemptions that applied during the Vietnam war, and that allegedly enabled the white middle classes to avoid military service but not the poor and the black.

It will be several months, even if Congress approves the suggestion immediately, before registration can be introduced. One question that will have to be resolved, and which should provoke an interesting debate, is whether women should be registered. Feminists, and politicians, probably mean support, have advocated treating both sexes equally.

On the more substantial question of approving the "Carter doctrine", opposition has so far been less noisy but may be much more serious. Many people fear that Mr Carter may be taking the first steps into a military commis-

ment like that undertaken by President Johnson in Vietnam, and they want none of it.

For the moment, at least, he seems to have the support of Congress and public opinion. Asger, the continued defence of the hostages in Tehran still runs fast and deep, and the invasion of Afghanistan has permitted the President to present a convincing case for greater military expenditure.

The chances are, therefore, that Selective Service and the "Carter doctrine" will be accepted by Congress.

The key phrase in the State of the Union message was a warning to the Soviet Union not to invade the Middle East. "Any attempt by any outside force to gain control of the (Persian) Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States," he said. "It will be repelled by use of any means necessary, including military force."

Whether or not that course of action is approved, there are grave doubts here over whether it can be enforced. Mr Carter said that he was seeking the cooperation of nations in the region in finding bases for American forces, but so far none has been found, except perhaps in Israel and Egypt.

Bases in those countries would not be well placed for action in the Gulf. Furthermore, the United States has neither the aircraft nor the ships to transport large numbers of troops halfway across the world. By contrast, the Russians now have use of the

former British base in Aden, and port facilities in Ethiopia, Somalia and, possibly, the Seychelles.

With the best will in the world, and limitless money, it will be several years before the Americans can produce an adequate army for use in the Middle East. They have examined the possibility of temporarily reducing their forces in West Germany to build up the emergency strike force Mr Carter wants to set up, but it is not clear that reducing the American armies there would be a good move in a confrontation with the Soviet Union.

Mr Carter also said last night that preventing nuclear war was still the main responsibility of the superpowers. "Especially now, in a time of great tension, observing the mutual constraints imposed by the terms of the Salt treaties will be in the best interests of both countries."

He wants to free the CIA and other intelligence-gathering agencies from excessive restraints, and to protect national secrets from unjustified publication.

He repeated that the West could not continue to do business as usual with the Soviet Union. "The Soviet Union must pay a concrete price for their aggression."

He reaffirmed the United States' commitment to the defence of Pakistan and respected that the crisis proved the importance of reducing the amount of oil the United States imports.

Carter text, page 6
Leading article, page 15

A fortune floats free from sunken freighter

By Anabel Ferriman

The English Channel could be washed with sardines as the chelates bank notes worth £1.2m after the sinking of a 6,540-ton Greek freighter off the Dorset coast.

The ship, Aeolian Sky, sank on November 4 after colliding with a German tanker and has since been lying on its side 100c down 12 miles east of Portland Bill.

It was carrying a secret cargo of new rupee notes for the Seychelles Government and a less secret cargo of Range (rovers), diesel train engines, cosmetics, hair spray, Smarties, Polos and Jellies.

But when the ship was searched by a salvage firm hoping to recover the money, no trace of the notes could be found. Dorset police say they do not know where they were stolen before the ship went down, were retrieved from the wreckage or simply broke loose and floated free, but they think the third possibility is the most likely.

The fishermen found four of the 100 rupee notes, worth £7.50 each in one of his lobster pots and handed them into the police at Weymouth. A police search of the Dorset coastline yesterday morning produced nothing.

Anyone proposing to take their holiday in the Seychelles would be wasting their time in searching for the notes, however, because the Seychelles Government has been told of the loss by the Crown Agents. The notes have been cancelled.

A spokesman for the P & O's general cargo division, which chartered the ship, said that after the collision they got in touch with their insurers who arranged salvage through the Salvage Association.

They rely on the insurers to retrieve the money. They knew the diesel locomotives would be ruined and did not think they could resell the sweets.

Mr Andrew Smith, the captain who took the salvage divers out, said that the men had been told they were looking for boxes of X-ray plates and it was only after seven unsuccessful trips that they learnt the truth.

Mr James Rowlands, managing director of Eurosalv, Folkestone, the salvage firm which attempted the recovery, said that he thought the money had been washed away. His divers had found many of the ship's doors ripped off their hinges.

"This would indicate that the immense pressure when the ship sank broke the doors and sucked out most of the contents," he said.

Earthquake in California

San Francisco, Jan 24.—A strong earthquake shook a large area of northern California today, rocking buildings in a number of cities and causing some damage. There were reports of minor injuries.

The University of California seismographic station said the earthquake was recorded at 5.8 on the open-ended Richter scale and was centred in the Livermore area, about 40 miles south-east of San Francisco.

—UPI.

Defiant Sakharov protest

Moscow, Jan 24.—Dr Andrei Sakharov, the banished Nobel Peace Prize winner, and other Soviet dissidents today denounced their Government for suppressing the independence of Afghanistan and called on world opinion to fight for the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

They said that because of the denial of basic human rights at home the Soviet Union posed a threat not just to its own people and its immediate neighbours, but to all mankind.

The bold condemnation of Soviet policies was issued by the Moscow group monitoring Soviet compliance with the Helsinki accords, with which Dr Sakharov has been closely associated, though he is not formally a member. The statement was dated January 21, the day before he and his wife, Yelena, a leading group member, were sent into indefinite exile in Gorky.

Informed sources said Dr Sakharov telephoned friends in Moscow today from Gorky and urged them to go ahead and issue the statement.

In a separate appeal, 18 Dr Sakharov's friends and associates of Dr Sakharov protested against his banishment, describing him as "the conscience of our country."

The Helsinki group's statement on Afghanistan said: "A war is going on in Afghanistan. Afghans are dying, and so are the boys—the sons and grandsons of those who went through the Second World War and of those who never came back."

"A mighty superpower with a population of 260 millions is suppressing the independence of Afghanistan, a nation of 17 million, while the Soviet mass media claim that our people are giving their unanimous support."

"But in reality people in the Soviet Union have neither useful information, nor the right to express their opinion. Liquidating dissent, page 6

Chink of light emerges in steel strike

The first sign of a breakthrough in the steel strike has emerged with an improved offer to members of the craft and general unions. But leaders of the main unions, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, confirmed their decision to extend the dispute to private companies in the face of a move by 16 private steel companies to obtain injunctions against Mr William Sims, general secretary of the ISTC and other ISTC members, to stop the strike being extended.

Page 2

Teachers' 7.5pc

Teachers' leaders accepted an interim pay increase of 7.5 per cent, or £238, whichever is the greater, for 1980-81, as the first part of a comparable award. The teachers' panel of the Burnham Committee, the national negotiating body, earlier rejected a 6 per cent offer. Teachers are demanding a total pay rise of 38.7 per cent.

Page 4

Dearer postal orders

Charges for postal orders and National Girobank services are to be increased. The Post Office informed the Post Office Users' National Council it plans to raise postal order charges early in March by about a third and withdraw the 10p, 15p and 20p denominations. National Giro bank charges will go up in April.

Page 17

Soviet envoy expelled

Mr Vsevolod Sofinsky, the Soviet Ambassador in Wellington, is to be expelled from New Zealand for giving money to the Socialist Unity Party, a Moscow-aligned faction which broke away from the Communist Party in 1956. Mr Sofinsky, who had been in New Zealand for less than a year, was seen handing over the money by security officers.

Page 5

'World of deception'

Recording an open verdict on Miss Olive St. Barbe, aged 93, who died eight weeks after merrily the male nurse who looked after her at an unregistered private home in West Kensington, London, the West London Coroner said she had lived in a "world of deception".

Page 2



Ulster funeral: Mark Maguire with his aunt Miss Mairead Corrigan (left) and Mrs Betty Williams, leaders of the Ulster Peace Movement, at the funeral of Mark's mother, Mrs Anne Maguire, in Belfast. The death of her other three children in 1976 led to the founding of the movement. A priest said that in reality Mrs Maguire had died four years ago.

Staff occupy hospital

Staff at St George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, London, occupied the buildings as the first step in a campaign by the National Union of Public Employees to save the hospital from its scheduled closure in June. A union representative said a 24-hour picket would be mounted so that equipment and patients could not be transferred.

Page 4

Turkey devalues

Turkey has devalued its currency by almost 50 per cent and slashed import taxes to one per cent in an attempt to revitalize its economy. Over the next few days further harsh economic measures are expected from Mr Suleyman Demirel's minority conservative Government to combat inflation of more than 100 per cent, falling production and soaring unemployment.

Page 17

Weddings ruling: Roman Catholic diocese in Sussex imposes six-month waiting period on couples wishing to marry in church.

Page 5

Rhodesia: 'controversial Rhodesian auxiliaries set out to neutralize Patriotic Front.'

Page 7

Audio-visual: A four-page Special Report on the industry and its growing use.

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 23, 24; Appointments, 15, 22, 23; Car buyer's guide, 22.

S Africa's dilemma over gold windfall

South Africa is trying to decide what to do with an estimated surplus of £400,000m from the increased price of gold. Government Ministers have said it will be used to repay foreign debts and to continue tax reliefs, probably meaning further cuts in income tax. However, there is pressure from the two main opposition parties to spend the windfall on housing, education and training programmes for blacks.

Page 7

Leader page, 13
Letters: On the Moscow Olympics from Lord Monckton of Brechley, and others; on the Archbishop of Canterbury from the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster; the steel dispute from Mr Tom Boardman.

Leading articles: President Carter's message; Shah of Iran; TV franchises; Features, pages 12, 15
Michael Shanks: Let Euro-MPs use their own brains; Temple-Morris describes why Iran needs a new figurehead; Vincent Shorne on the British Library.

Art, page 11
Tennis: Mourner loses to McEnroe; Bowls: England win triples championship; Football: Wales advertise for new manager; Rugby Union: Peter West decries behaviour of leading players.

David Robinson, reviewing The Big Fix, finds in Jeremy Paul Kagan one of Hollywood's most promising young directors; William Munn on The Merry Widow at the Coliseum, and Ned Chaillex on Peter Nichol's Born in the Gardens at the Globe.

Obituary, page 14
Mr Walpole Lewis, Sir James Woodson: Business News, page 15-21
The new tap stocks were too much for gilded to absorb and securities fell throughout the list. Shares were neglected and the FT Index fell 2.1 to 448.7.

Financial Editor: Test of nerve in the gilt-edged market; Bank Organization gearing comes down again.
Business features: Frank Vogt looks at American breakfast television; Nicholas Hirst on the oil price guessing game; Kenneth Owen discusses artificial intelligence.

Breakfast television on the menu

By Kenneth Gosling

A nationwide breakfast-time television service could be in operation in two years as part of plans for new television franchises announced in London yesterday by the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The new franchises will run from the beginning of 1982, and the only changes in the present television areas are those affecting the Midlands and the south of England, which will become dual areas, each operated by a single company.

Strong pressure from Wales to divide the present Wales and West area were rejected by the authority. It is proposed that the London weekend service will start earlier than at present.

The closing date for applications to operate the franchises will be May 9 and the authority plans further public consultation before awarding the new contracts next winter.

Lady Plowden, chairman of the IBA, made it clear at a press conference that the new franchises will not represent licences to print money.

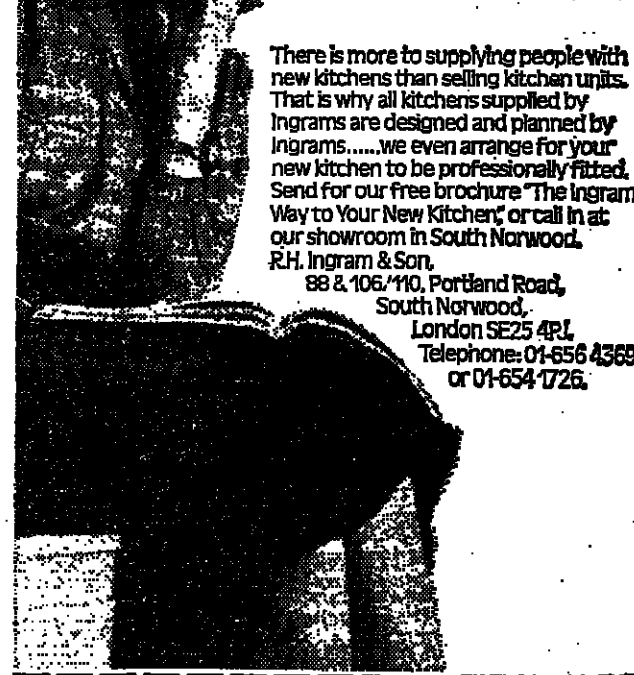
"The price of entering the race which is now going to open is much higher than ever before and the rewards are likely to be less, certainly in the short term as the fourth channel comes into operation," she said.

"What we have decided represents a fair compromise between the claims of the public and those of the companies who may be bidding."

Company rentals are to be greatly increased. The Association of Independent Radio Contractors has expressed reservations about the timing of morning television. Such a change encouraging priority to the service could, it said, adversely affect independent local radio, and especially the new companies, at a sensitive stage in their development.

Report, page 4; leading article, page 13; Business News, pages 17 and 19.

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HOME NEWS

Chink of light emerges in steel dispute, but union acts to include the independent sector

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The first sign of a breakthrough in the state steel strike emerged yesterday as leaders of the dominant union, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, confirmed their decision to extend the shutdown to the private sector.

Negotiators from the craft and general unions in the steel industry heard details of an improved offer from the British Steel Corporation that removed some of the "objectionable" parts of the pay and productivity package. Further talks are to be held at BSC headquarters on Sunday.

Yesterday's peace moves took place at the offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, and as he left Mr Thomas Crispin, steel negotiator for the Transport and General Workers' Union, said: "There are considerable problems to overcome, but they are moving in the right direction. If progress can be continued, a basis exists for an ultimate settlement."

A formal invitation to join the new round of talks was issued to ISTC leaders and the National Union of Blastfurnacemen last night. Neither union had attended the meeting. Both insist that there must be "money on the table" before they will resume negotiations to end the strike, now in its fourth week.

The steelworkers' executive committee went ahead with its decision to call out to 20,000 workers in the private sector despite a threat of litigation by some steelmaking employers, who will today seek a High Court injunction restraining the ISTC from going ahead with its "political" strike.

Despite a reluctance in some areas to join the stoppage, which has shut down the BSC since January 2, private steel industry workers will be instructed this morning to stop work from 6 am on Sunday.

The steelworkers' leaders were last night confident that the private steelmakers will follow an injunction. They base their optimism on the Law Lords' decision in the case of *Express Newspapers v. McShane*, which in effect legitimized sympathetic industrial action in support of a dispute.

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the confederation, said his union's lawyers had looked at the legal implications of the private sector strike. He said the ISTC was calling a political strike, but added: "We are not in a political confrontation, but there is political intervention. I said that in front of the Prime Minister on Monday, and I said it before. I may have

to bring the Prime Minister as a witness to prove that point."

Before receiving the invitation to Sunday's talks, Mr Hector Smith, general secretary of the National Union of Blastfurnacemen, said bluntly: "We are not going to A.C.A.S. We are not going anywhere until money is put on the table. I do not mind if it is the Archbishop of Canterbury or the Pope or A.C.A.S., but there has to be money on the table before I meet anybody."

Asked if the steelworkers had shot their last bolt by calling out the private sector, Mr Sims demurred, saying that "if we were very awful people" they would link the pay strike up with the struggle over BSC plant closures, which has precipitated a one-day "general strike" in South Wales on Monday.

He disclosed that he, with Mr Frank Chapple, chairman of the nationalized industries committee, had prevented this protest action from spreading. Patricia Tisdall writes: Industrialists at the policy-making council of the Confederation of British Industry yesterday endorsed the British Steel Corporation's policy of a pay award based on performance.

The council devoted the main part of its monthly meeting to an assessment of the dispute from Sir Charles Villiers, BSC chairman, and his senior colleagues.

Private firms obtain writ against ISTC

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Britain's private sector steel producers yesterday implemented their threat to institute legal proceedings against the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, whose executive yesterday endorsed an earlier resolution to call out its 20,000 members in the independent steel-making industry from next Sunday.

Sixteen private companies obtained a High Court writ against Mr William Sims, general secretary of the ISTC, and other ISTC members seeking four injunctions to stop a strike and picketing.

The decision to pull out private sector ISTC men represent a significant escalation of the four-week dispute, which has stopped all British Steel Corporation production. The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service was making efforts yesterday to break the impasse in the steel dispute.

Before the writ was served,

Mr Alec Mortimer, director general of BISPA, issued a warning to Mr Sims of their intention to seek an injunction requiring the union to "with- draw its call and its inducement to other parties to interfere with private producers' operations."

It is expected that the matter will come before a Queen's Bench division judge in private today. If the application fails the BISPA companies are expected to take the case to the Court of Appeal.

The four injunctions sought are to prevent Mr Sims and two other defendants from instructing union members to break their contracts of employment by striking or interfering with the supply or delivery of steel or steel products, or by asking any other industrial action to prevent them interfering with the companies' business; to prevent picketing at, or adjacent to, the companies' premises; and to revoke any instructions to union members to engage in any strike or picketing.

BSC price gap, page 17

Clashes in Commons by leaders

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Government had no moral right to sit back while creeping industrial paralysis spread over the country, Mr James Callaghan, the Opposition leader, said in the Commons yesterday during angry exchanges over changes over the steel strike.

He said that after the Wales TUC's call for a day of action in protest against the British Steel Corporation's plan partially to close the steelworks at Port Talbot and Llanwern, South Wales was likely to experience a complete stoppage of work on Monday.

"The Prime Minister knows it is the desire of everybody to see this strike at an end," he said. "She must know that she will have to take a direct responsibility, not just meet these people [the steel workers' leaders and managers] and send them away, but to practise conciliation herself."

Sustained Labour cheers forced Mrs Thatcher to shout in reply. Using a deliberate, slow delivery, she said: "As there is no dispute whatsoever between the workers in the private sector of steel and their employers, I trust Mr Callaghan will do everything he can to discourage these men from going on strike."

Conservative MPs from the Conservatives and protests from Labour MPs made the Prime Minister inaudible for a time. She could then be heard saying: "... because if he goes ahead and encourages them, he may encourage them on to the steel strike."

The facts were that Mr Bill Sims, the steelworkers' leader, has used his influence in his own executive 10 days ago to prevent a strike of steelworkers in the private sector, Parliamentary report, page 8



Day of the pipe smoker: Edward Fox, the actor, who was named Pipe Smoker of the Year by the Pipesmokers' Council, yesterday declined his prize of three pipes and a quantity of his favourite tobacco and asked for the cash value, about £100, to be sent to help Cambodian refugees. Mr Fox is photographed (centre) at the presentation at the Savoy Hotel, in London, with the runners-up in the competition, Sir Douglas Bader (left) and Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris, the founder of the Freedom Organization for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco.

Showdown looms on new power station

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Contractors may try to recruit new labour over the next few days in an attempt to solve a dispute that is threatening completion of Europe's biggest oil-fired power station.

The Department of Employment will be given statutory 90-day redundancy notices today covering, if necessary, all 1,600 construction workers engaged on the £550m project at Grain, Kent.

The Central Electricity Generating Board called a halt last week to work on two of the station's five 660-mw units because of the five-month-old dispute involving 60 "lagers", who put insulating material on boilers, pipework and turbines.

The board has further warned contractors and national union officers that unless the issue is resolved by February 1 steps will be taken that could mean stopping work on the other two uncompleted units.

The move is probably the most drastic made by the CEGB during the series of disputes that has dogged progress since work began 10 years ago. It is well behind schedule.

The two units on which work has been halted are in the least advanced stage of construction, and the moves would mean making between 300 and 400 men redundant.

One of the five units is already working.

The dispute came to a head last August when the workforce employed by the consortium carrying out the lagging, Cape Darlington Newall, failed to agree terms for a return to work after being laid off because of a dispute involving another group on the site.

The CEGB say they ended the contract with CDN after "the contractor was unable to get the men involved to accept a revised bonus scheme and return to work."

The CEGB said last night that three contractors, the General Electric Company, Pipework Engineering Developments and Babcock and Wilcox, would be seeking lagers belonging to the union representing the 60 men in the dispute, the General and Municipal Workers' Union, but from off the site.

The move comes after a failure up to last night by the CEGB to find an alternative contractor to carry out the lagging by national officers of unions other than the G.M.W.U. to recruit outside labour if necessary.

Mr Frank Earl, national officer of the G.M.W.U., said last night that he had reached agreement with an insulation company to carry out the contract employing the lagers involved in the dispute. The CEGB said they had not yet been approached.

Greenpeace claims victory diverting 'nuclear' cargo

From David Nicholson-Lord
Cherbourg, Jan 24

Greenpeace volunteers blockading Cherbourg harbour claimed a moral victory yesterday after a cargo of spent nuclear fuel believed to be destined for the French reprocessing plant at Cap de la Hague was diverted to Barrow-in-Furness.

Mr Peter Wilkinson, the United Kingdom director of Greenpeace, the international environmental protection group, said it had received reliable information that the British nuclear fuel vessel, Pacific Swan, carrying an estimated 49 tons of spent light water reactor fuel from Japan, had been due to dock at Cherbourg for unloading on Wednesday morning.

The fact that it was diverted at the last minute showed that determined non-violent action produces results, he added. The authorities are clearly worried about growing local opposition to the reprocessing of nuclear fuel.

He said Greenpeace intended to step up its harassment of nuclear fuel shipments as part of a new campaign to alert the public to the dangers. The routing of the Pacific Swan to Barrow, where fuel is unloaded for shipment to the Windscale reprocessing plant, represents the half-way stage in a cat and mouse game played by the two sides in the Western Approaches to the Channel.

The 400-ton Greenpeace vessel, Rainbow Warrior, a protest ship, arrived here from Guernsey on Monday and spent two days patrolling off the Channel peninsula on the lookout for the B.N.F.L. vessel.

Its crew believes their presence was detected by a spotter aircraft and a French navy minesweeper said that the Pacific Swan, after turning east for Cherbourg, was given fresh instructions to divert to Barrow, where it was originally due to arrive on Tuesday.

Mr Wilkinson would not reveal the group's tactics if this occurred but said there was no question of blocking the vessel's path.

Support for Robinson strike fading

By Clifford Webb
Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Some shop stewards at BL's Longbridge car plant have warned officials of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers that there is diminishing support for a strike to secure the reinstatement of their dismissed convenor, Mr Derek Robinson.

In spite of this, the West Birmingham district committee of the union, which covers Longbridge, has told the three men on the union inquiry team that it still wants an official strike if their investigation reports that Mr Robinson was wrongfully dismissed.

Last night Mr Kenneth Curren, the Midlands representative on the national executive and a member of the inquiry board, said: "I understand that some people are claiming that the union is not in favour of a resolution to the national executive warning against a strike."

"I can assure you that no such letter has been received. However, shop stewards at Longbridge have told workers that they have reported the growing feeling against a strike."

Union sources now suggest mid February as the likeliest date for the result to be announced. It is widely believed within BL that the announcement is awaiting the result of the pay ballot shortly to be taken of all 90,000 manual workers.

'Unreliable evidence' over death of woman

By Craig Seton

An "open verdict" was recorded in the inquest at Hammersmith, London, yesterday on Miss Olive St Barbe, aged 93, who died eight weeks after marrying the male nurse who looked after her at an unregistered private home. Dr John Burton, the West London Coroner, said she had lived in a "world of deception".

Dr Burton referred to "unreliable evidence" and said Miss St Barbe's marriage had been concealed from various people, including the police, a clergyman and the family.

He referred to inaccuracies in the evidence of Mr Wallace Davey, aged 45, who married Miss St Barbe while she was staying at the private home of Mrs Alice Kloude, in Fitzjames Avenue, West Kensington. At her death she was said to have weighed only 60lb, and to be emaciated and immobile.

The police gave evidence of fees Miss St Barbe was paying at the home of £658 a week and cheques payable in a six-month period of £4,084 to Mr Davey and £2,940 to Mrs Kloude.

Dr Burton, opening the resumed inquest, said there had been difficulties getting all the facts. Inquiries had been frustrated by the lack of powers to compel witnesses to appear, especially considering the powers of the Inland Revenue to enter premises and take evidence.

When the inquest opened two weeks ago it was stated that the cause of death had been given as the Official Solicitor as her receiver.

Dr Burton said yesterday that he would not concern himself with Miss St Barbe's will or the fact that her death certificate, recording that she died of bronchial pneumonia, had been altered, and that the word "Davey" had been added.

Mr Davey was told by the coroner he was not obliged to answer incriminating questions. He agreed that when the Rev Simon Farrer, a former lodger of Miss St Barbe's, called to see her, he had identified himself by the name "Lowndes".

Asked about his feelings when Mr Davey said he was a slight hint of hostility and I did not see that the marriage was any of his business."

In reply to other questions, he said the marriage was Miss St Barbe's idea, and he had been reluctant to go ahead. Asked why information about the marriage had been suppressed, he replied: "She asked me not to say anything."

Asked if his interest had been "to get all he could out of it", he replied: "Absolutely not. I had absolutely no interest whatever."

He added: "She felt she needed protection. She had an obsessive fear that she was going to be taken away from us."

Asked about marriage to a woman of 93, he said: "I cannot see anything reprehensible in it."

Asked about her declining health and the fact that she had a temperature of 105° on December 26, the day before she died, Mr Davey agreed he had not called a doctor, but had taken the medical decision to increase the dosage of anti-biotic. He said: "I did not expect her to be dead the following morning."

Dr Donald Blair, a psychiatrist of Harley Street, London, said Miss St Barbe was mentally and physically feeble.

Dr Burton said that as he did not have a person he could regard as a reliable witness to a written record of an open verdict. The law, he said, seemed inadequate over powers of investigation.

Resistance to manpower services' cuts urged

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Civil Service unions are urging the Manpower Services Commission (MSC) to resist staff cuts imposed by the Government as part of a programme to cut 39,000 jobs in the next three years.

The commission is due to meet on Monday to discuss the cuts and yesterday Mr Christopher Easington, national officer of the Civil and Public Services Association, said: "We believe that far from cutting resources at the moment there is a need to build up these resources to cope with the problems we are going to

face in the next two or three years."

"The MSC has got to fight the Government on these proposals and take whatever measures are necessary to fight them."

The Government plans to cut employment in the MSC by 3,400, which will lead to 14 skill centres and annexes being closed. Union officials argue that there is an increasing need for skill centres, and yesterday they attacked government plans to close centres in areas of high unemployment.

The unions claim that the cuts will mean a reduction in the training opportunities scheme amounting to 10,000 places a year.

'Times' objects to advertisement

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

A full-page advertisement on behalf of Datsun car importers and dealers, which was to have appeared in today's edition of *The Times*, was cancelled last night after objections had been made by the editor, Mr William Rees-Mogg.

The editor said there had been no question of rejecting the advertisement but there were specific points he was not happy about and he had asked Datsun to make changes.

Datsun United Kingdom said last night: "We felt that if we started changing the advertisement at this late stage it would lose its effect. So we decided to withdraw it and run a previous advertisement in its place."

The advertisement argues that Datsun dealers have been made the scapegoats for the high level of car imports into Britain. It says restrictions on Japanese imports designed to help British manufacturers have only benefited Continental competitors.

"Since 1975", the advertisement continues, "other importers from France, Germany, the Communist Bloc and elsewhere have been laughing up their sleeves at the restrictions on Datsun and other Japanese manufacturers and have been pouring cars freely into Britain."

The advertisement refers to a forthcoming meeting in Mexico between the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers' Association and says the society will use the meeting to press for continued import restrictions.

Mr Rees-Mogg said he objected to the advertisement in three respects. One was a reference to the headline "communism" car manufacturers which was not justified by the text. Secondly, the reference to a Leyland representative travelling with the Society of Motor Manufacturers

"at the taxpayers' expense" carried a misleading implication. Thirdly, he had asked to know the basis for some target car sales figures quoted in a table.

The advertisement was also criticized by BL. It said Mr David Andrews, executive vice chairman, would be going to Mexico to represent British car manufacturers as a whole and his expenses were only partly being paid for by BL. BL questioned some of the sales figures in the advertisement.

Earlier, Datsun had agreed to changes in the advertisement requested by the Newspaper Publishers' Association. The association said the amendments were essentially technical and it had no objection to the content.

Those included the furnishing of sources for statistics and the removal of three names of people who had been quoted without their permission being sought.

Foreign unions promise vigilance over exports

By Our Labour Editor

Leaders of 15 steel unions from many parts of the world yesterday promised the ISTC and other striking British steelworkers go down to defeat.

They took part in an executive committee meeting of the main steel union, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, and pledged "continuous vigilance" to prevent exports to the United Kingdom that might diminish the impact of the strike.

Mr Herman Rebban, general secretary of the International Metalworkers' Federation, told the private meeting of the ISTC leaders: "Without a strong

steel industry, whose workers are not paid coiffe wages, the rest of British industry will suffer an irreversible decline."

"We keep reading in the newspapers about how Trotskyists are infiltrating the Labour Party in the shape of the Militant Tendency. I would say they seem to have been more successful in implanting themselves in the heart of the British Steel Corporation, since the BSC management managed to turn moderate, mature unions that have always preferred negotiation to confrontation into the determined and fully justified fighters that we have seen in action since the beginning of the month," he said.

Private production to continue

From Ronald Kershaw
Sheffield

Private sector steel and engineering companies in South Yorkshire will be permitted to continue limited production next week despite the extension of the British Steel Corporation strike to private steel manufacturers.

Although the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has come out in support of the strike, the Confederation of Shipbuilders and Engineering Unions at Sheffield, with the support of other unions in the production provided private companies use only their own steel from stock.

Mr George Caborn, of the AUEW and Sheffield chairman of the CSEU, said yesterday that a meeting of the confederation attended by representatives of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and the Transport and General Workers'

Union had agreed that the ISTC would not stop people entering private firms on the strict understanding that they undertook not to work usually done by ISTC members.

A second condition was that companies must use only their own stock of steel. Mr Caborn said: "I further stocks are taken into the works our people will not use them". Shop stewards at private companies had informed management of the decision.

Frances Gibb writes from Corby: One of the largest private steel producers in the country was affected by the steel workers' launched a new flying ramp campaign to cripple steel movements in the private sector.

Pickets from Corby went to the Sheerness Steel Company, in Kent, which produces 450,000 tonnes of bars and rods a year. The company is a member

of the British Independent Steel Producers' Association and backed a call yesterday for a High Court injunction to stop its 850 employees being called out on strike from Sunday.

At Corby nearly 100 steel workers have volunteered to take part in a flying squad of pickets to be sent away for a week at a time wherever they are needed.

The Midlands is likely to be one of the worst affected by the spread of the strike into the private sector. Mr Roy Bishop, ISTC Midlands divisional officer, said: "This area is the heart of the private sector steel industry."

Alan Hamilton writes from Scunthorpe: MSC management at Scunthorpe has agreed to lay off 100 white collar management staff over the next three days in response to requests from the local strike committee of the ISTC.

Labour agent resigns over the left wing

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

Mr Richard Hughes, the agent of the late Sir Arthur Irvine, QC, former Labour MP for Liverpool, Edge Hill, has resigned from the Labour Party after a lifetime membership, saying that the pressures put on Sir Arthur from left-wing extremists had contributed to the MP's death.

Mr Hughes, aged 50, yesterday denied reports that he had been hounded out by extremists but said he had been in self-imposed exile for 18 months before reaching his decision.

PLP to consider its stance on party inquiry

By Our Political Reporter

The Parliamentary Labour Party should take towards the commission of inquiry into the party's organization and structure.

The issue was raised at a meeting of the PLP last night after the national executive committee's decision not to change the balance of the commission's membership.

Some MPs and trade unionists have complained that the composition of the commission is heavily weighted towards the left, but the NEC on Wednesday rejected a request from the trade unions that there should be changes.

Bail of £10,000 for detectives

Two Scotland Yard detectives accused of corruption were granted bail in the sum of £10,000 each at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday, having been remanded in custody last Monday. They are due to appear in court again on March 20.

Det Constable Paul Rezzev, aged 27, a Flying Squad officer, of Courtwood Lane, Croydon, and Det Constable Michael Ross, aged 30, a divisional detective in the Brighton district of Hastings Road, Bromley, Kent, were ordered to surrender their passports. They are charged with accepting bribes and demanding money with menaces.

Suspended psychiatrist is allowed to retire

The South West Thames Regional Health Authority has formally accepted a "directive" from Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, that a suspended psychiatrist be allowed to retire on the grounds of ill health instead of being dismissed, so receiving a pension.

Mr Terence Lawlor, a consultant psychiatrist, had his contract terminated by the authority for his conduct at Normansfield mental hospital, Teddington, Middlesex, after a recommendation that he be dismissed and never employed again in the health service. He has been under suspension for two years pending an appeal.

Last December Mr Jenkin said the terms of Mr Lawlor's contract were defective, and the dismissal was withdrawn. Mr Jenkin suggested to the authority that they should accept Mr Lawlor's application to retire early.

In 1976 a nurse at Normansfield staged an 11-hour unofficial strike, which led to an inquiry. A report published in 1978 found that he had run an intolerant, abusive regime and that he was the person mainly responsible for the crisis of confidence that led to the strike. The report said he lied in evidence and caused needless distress.

Mr Lawlor said the report was unfair and one-sided.

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GREAT SOUTH WEST ROAD, FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX
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TERMS: CASH OR CERTIFIED CHEQUES

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm (solid line) Cold (dashed line) (Symbols are an advance edge)

Today
Sun rises: 7.50 am
Sun sets: 4.36 pm
Moon sets: 1.15 am
Moon rises: 11.46 am
Full Moon: February 1.
Lighting up: 5.06 pm to 7.19 am.
High Water: London Bridge, 7.10 am, 6.50 pm, 7.57 pm, 11.23 pm.
Low Water: London Bridge, 12.19 am, 11.21 am, 12.53 pm, 11.20 am, 4.17 am, 6.10 am.
5.55 pm, 5.40 am, 6.30 am, 6.30 am, 6.20 am, 6.20 am.
1st-3.208R.
A depression in the North Sea is slow moving and filling steadily. Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London, Midlands, central S. E. and SW England, Wales, Channel Island: Frost early and late, fog patches clearing slowly, sunny periods; wind variable, light.
Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mostly dry, some sun; overnight frost and fog; rather cold.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fog; o, overcast; r, rain; s, sun; sl, sleet; sn, snow.

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Wind	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Amsterdam	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Antwerp	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Brussels	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Cardiff	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Cologne	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Dublin	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Edinburgh	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Geneva	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
London	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Lyons	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Madrid	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Moscow	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Norwich	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Paris	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Prague	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Rome	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Stockholm	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Warsaw	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20
Zurich	10	SE	20	10	10	SE	20

Overseas selling prices
Australia \$1.00, Argentina \$1.00, Belgium \$1.00, Brazil \$1.00, Canada \$1.00, Denmark \$1.00, France \$1.00, Germany \$1.00, Greece \$1.00, Hong Kong \$1.00, India \$1.00, Italy \$1.00, Japan \$1.00, Korea \$1.00, Malaysia \$1.00, Mexico \$1.00, Netherlands \$1.00, New Zealand \$1.00, Norway \$1.00, Portugal \$1.00, Singapore \$1.00, South Africa \$1.00, Sweden \$1.00, Switzerland \$1.00, Taiwan \$1.00, Thailand \$1.00, United Kingdom \$1.00, USA \$1.00, West Germany \$1.00, Yugoslavia \$1.00.

Published daily except Sundays, January 1, Easter Monday, Good Friday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, and on public holidays. For a complete list of prices

If you want the best value in low cost, everyday motoring... ...you need a Safari Winner!



Datsun Violet Saloon



Datsun Violet—outright winner of the 1979 African Safari Rally

Datsun Violet saloons scored an outstanding TRIPLE success in the incredibly tough 1979 East African Safari Rally—outright victory against the best rally cars the rest of the world could provide, a convincing team prize and class victory.

Torrential rain, floods, choking dust and burning heat meant that only 21 cars out of the original 72 starters managed to survive the course. Six Datsun Violets started; six finished.

Now comes an independent survey of 68 top-selling cars, which shows that a 1600c.c. Violet costs up to £9 a week LESS to run than a competitive 1300c.c. saloon.

Not only is the Datsun Violet capable of sustained rally-winning high performance, it is also outstanding for economy in every day use.

Official Government figures show that at a steady 56m.p.h. the 1600c.c. Violet gives almost 40m.p.g. and the 1400c.c. Violet almost 43m.p.g.

But petrol is only one of the things the survey took into account. They also considered insurance, servicing costs, re-sale value after two years and the cost of repairs—and you know that Datsuns are unbeatable for reliability.

That's the sort of "hidden benefit" you get with Datsun. Extremely economical to run, exceptionally reliable, well equipped and outstanding value for money.

As nearly 600,000 motorists in Britain have already discovered to their advantage!

The Datsun Violet is probably the best investment you can make if you are looking for a reliable family saloon that offers a touch of luxury at a sensible price and with really low running costs.

At £3691 for the 1400c.c. saloon, and £3774 for the 1600c.c. saloon, including Car Tax and V.A.T., there's no better value on the market today.

Should you think that the crushing victory by Datsun in the 1979 Safari Rally was a flash-in-the-pan, the record books show that Datsuns have a history of success in this, the toughest event in the sporting calendar.

Apart from two victories by the famous 240Z, the Datsun Bluebird has also scored a notable first and second in the Safari.

The 1980 Datsun Bluebird reflects this pedigree by combining a precision-built luxury saloon with 100m.p.h. performance and equally impressive economy. Even cruising at a steady 75m.p.h., the 1.8 litre saloon still gives you over 30 miles to the gallon.

Yet it is a tough, comfortable motor car, equipped with masses of luxury "extras" to help you enjoy your motoring.

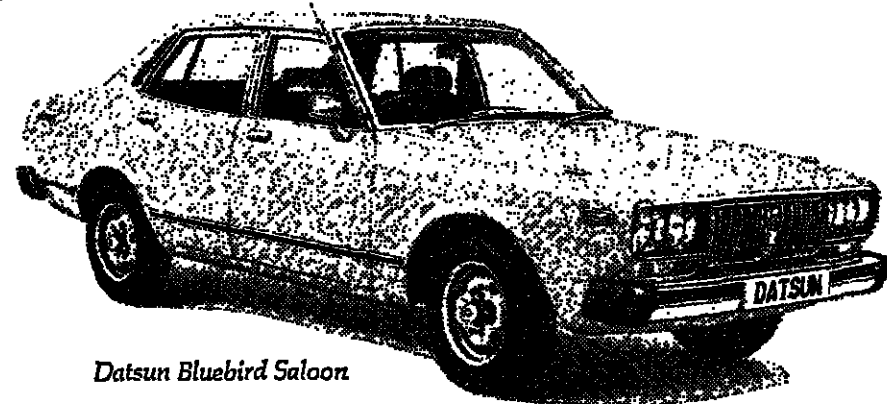
Such as *a special tilt and lumbar control for the driver's seat *luxury Corduroy style cloth upholstery *tinted glass *a push-button

MW/LW radio *quartz clock *bi-level heating and ventilation *deep pile carpets *automatic reversing lights *illuminated ignition switch *warning lights for 10 functions, including screen washer level, battery top-up, door not properly closed, etc. *interior boot light *centre console *three-speed wipers with intermittent and wash/wipe *heated rear window *rubber bumper strip *adjustable head restraints *four headlamp system, and much more.

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Violet 1.6 litre Saloon	£3774.29	Bluebird 1.8 litre Saloon	£4098.20
Violet 1.6 litre SSS Coupé	£4258.91	Bluebird 1.8 litre Estate	£4452.02
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Government fuel consumption tests: Violet 1.4 litre saloon, 56mpg, 42.8mpg (6.6 litres per 100K); Urban, 32.1mpg (8.8 litres per 100K); 75mph, 30.4mpg (9.3 litres per 100K). Violet 1.6 litre saloon, 56mpg, 39.8mpg (7.1 litres per 100K); Urban, 29.4mpg (9.6 litres per 100K); 75mph, 28.8mpg (9.8 litres per 100K). Bluebird 1.8 litre saloon, 56mpg, 39.2mpg (7.2 litres per 100K); Urban, 28.5mpg (9.9 litres per 100K); 75mph, 30.1mpg (9.4 litres per 100K).

HOME NEWS

Breakfast-time television and dual regions for Midlands and the South planned by IBA

By Kenneth Gostling

Dual regions in the Midlands and south of England, a new company to operate breakfast-time television nationally, and an earlier changeover between the London weekday and weekend contractors are the main points of the contract particulars for the new commercial television franchises that will run from January 1, 1982.

Details were published yesterday by the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The new contracts will be awarded at the end of this year, giving successful contractors a year to complete their practical arrangements. It is assumed that legislation will be passed in good time to enable the final details to be completed.

The Government's broadcasting Bill is expected to be published later this month or early in February. Groups contending for the new franchises will be invited to submit applications by May 9.

An IBA statement yesterday set out the authority's reasons for deciding against any further splitting of the regions. Comprehensive consultation with the public, it said, had supported the arguments against endangering the strength of the independent television system as a whole by breaking it into more pieces.

Most universities, it said, were highly valued regional services by reducing the number of areas, as purely financial considerations might have suggested.

The contract particulars also provide for subscriptions to be paid by the new contractors towards the financing of the fourth television channel, which it is hoped will begin broad-

casting under separate IBA contracts. The London weekday subscription, for example, will be just over £11m, the next highest being the North-west at £10.8m, and £9m for the Midlands.

The company revenues will be greatly increased when the new contractors take over and vary from £6.2m for London weekday, compared with the present figure of just under £4m, to £10,000 for the Channel Isles, which is roughly double the present figure.

The authority says that if a breakfast-time contract was awarded, it would apply to the period between 6 and 7.15 am for seven days a week, but with broadcasting likely to start normally at about 7 am. It would be for a service consisting mainly of news, information and current affairs.

Applicants would be asked what their relationship, if any, would be with Independent Television News and about their ideas for introducing regional elements into the service.

A breakfast-time contractor would have to pay a rental to the authority of at least £500,000 to start with, that being subject to variations at two-yearly intervals in the light of results.

"It is not foreseen that a breakfast-time contractor would have any early part to play in the fourth channel, and as long as this is the case no fourth channel subscription is likely to be paid for it," the authority said.

The new dual regions will be known as East and West Midlands and South and South-east England and will be in addition to the present dual region for Wales and the

West. One company will be appointed to run each of the dual regions and will be required to provide a separate studio centre in the eastern part of the areas.

The IBA refers to the present Midlands region, run by ATV, as a large area and says the decision whether to split it had been among the main questions for the authority in planning the post-1981 contracts.

The establishment of a separate East Midlands contract area would be a high risk gamble. The authority had considered with great care the argument that it was a gamble that would be contractors should be allowed to take and that a separate contract area should be advertised to see whether any applicant believed it could be viable.

The changeover time between the London weekday and weekend contractors will be advanced from 7 pm on Fridays to 5.15 pm.

Applicants for the London franchises are to be invited to consider how best to achieve an improved service of regional news throughout all seven days of the week, possibly on a common basis.

Discussing its reasons for not separating the west of England from Wales, the authority says that from Wales it had been argued that the Welsh language, culture and commercial life would not be served if the link with England was severed.

In the west of England the cultural differences between the two parts of the region had been similarly emphasized and voices raised against what was seen as a possible disproportionate

allocation of resources to the programme services for Welsh viewers.

In considering the different courses of action the authority had been concerned above all with the quality of programme services; but it pointed out that the contractor in Wales would have a commitment to produce a certain amount of Welsh language programming for the fourth channel as well as English language programming for TV 1.

"The requirements are costly and the blunt financial truth is that a wholly separate Welsh company bordered by a separate English company in the South as well as in the North could not be expected to generate sufficient revenue to meet them."

If Wales was going to receive, whether on one channel or two, the service its importance warranted, it needed to form part of an area larger than that of Wales alone. The IBA believed the combined combination of Wales and the west of England as a dual region was the best solution.

The contribution the new companies will have to make to the fourth television channel can be set off against the television levy, the amount the authority collects from companies on behalf of the Government.

According to present thinking, the subscriptions would count as a form of programme expenditure, and the levy is charged on companies' profits after expenditure on programmes.

Labour bid to delay benefit Bill fails

By Pat Healy
Social Services
Correspondent

A determined attempt by Labour MPs to delay the committee stage of the Social Security Bill until the Government discloses what it will do about the shortfall on the November pensions increase was finally defeated yesterday.

After nearly five hours of debate, the standing committee on the Bill approved a procedural motion to begin discussion, by 11 votes to nine.

Labour MPs strongly denied yesterday that they were delaying any discussion of the Bill.

They were demanding that Clause 1, which seeks to change the basis on which pensions are raised from a link with both earnings and prices to a prices only one, should be deferred until it was clear what the Government intended to do about the shortfall.

Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, said that the shortfall affected millions of people, who were losing a total of £150m a year because the Government had underestimated the amount by which earnings would rise. Labour governments had shown that they could not be trusted on that issue, and there was even less reason to trust a Tory one.

"We are talking of those at the bottom of the heap of our society, the very poorest," Mr Field said. "We are talking about how many extra loaves of bread families can buy."

Metropolitan councils oppose block grants

By Christopher Warman
Local Government
Correspondent

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities yesterday promised outright opposition to the Government's proposals to introduce a block grant system for local government finance.

Although Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced concessions on the proposals in the House of Commons last week, he remained firm on the need for the block grant, which he believes is necessary to curb council overspending.

The Local Government, Planning and Land Bill, which will include this measure, is to be re-introduced today, seven weeks after it was withdrawn because of Labour Party protests against its introduction into the House of Lords.

Sir Godfrey Taylor, the chairman, told a meeting of the AMA that the block grant was introduced they would be briefing their vice-presidents in Parliament, and he asked all member authorities to lobby their MPs in an attempt to persuade the Government against implementing the block grant.

Sir Godfrey said Mr Heseltine had argued that the only principle with which he was concerned was to break the connection between spending and getting more grant.

"There are ways that this can be done under the present grant system without going in for the detailed prescribing of the levels of expenditure by each local authority in the

Hospital is 'occupied' by union members

By Roger Berthoud

"Occupied. Save St George's. Defend the NHS," a large white and black banner flying from the scaffolding above the entrance to St George's Hospital, at Hyde Park Corner, London, proclaimed yesterday.

The reality on the ground was rather less dramatic. In an attempt to save the hospital from its scheduled closure in June, Mr Alan Ellis, branch secretary at St George's of the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE), yesterday telephoned John Lusby, the hospital's administrator, and said: "The union have taken the decision to occupy the hospital."

"This means the staff will now have control over what comes in and goes out of the hospital. There will also be 24-hour picket. We are trying to stop you transferring equipment and patients. We want to work."

Mr Ellis, an assistant head chef, explained later that despite the announcement of the "occupation", the 200 NUPE members at the hospital were working normally, and the patients, who also number about 200, were being looked after as well as usual. The move had been made because staff morale was low, and because there had been reports of the hospital being sold to the private sector.

Mr Lusby, of the Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth Area Health Authority, said the closure of the hospital has been planned for years, and was linked to the opening of the first phase of the rebuilding of St George's Hospital at Tooting, London.

Admission of patients to the new wing at Tooting would begin shortly. The principle of the transfer had been the subject of full consultations, and had not been opposed by the community health councils.

It had had to be announced because of the financial difficulties of the district health authority. Some alternative facilities had meanwhile been arranged at the Brompton Hospital in Fulham.

Mr John Parkinson, consultant cardiac surgeon at St George's, said he thought the medical staff there had accepted that the hospital would close. But they felt the way it was being closed was disruptive to clinical services to patients.

"The cardio-thoracic unit, for example, had to go to the Brompton Hospital for six months, and would have to reduce its services by half. The administration was also being uncooperative about maintaining the surgical services. Some of the staff were being sent to St James's Hospital at Bath."

Mr Michael Knight, consultant surgeon in the biliary, pancreatic and liver disease unit, said the authority's proposals meant the splitting of specialist medical staff. "The authority have totally ignored all medical advice," he said.

Mr John Weaver, of the South Coast Thames Regional Health Authority, and Mr Lusby both emphasized that the rebuilt St George's at Tooting was to be an important teaching hospital in a big catchment area. There had not yet been any negotiations over the Hyde Park Corner site.

Teachers accept pay offer

By Diane Geddes
Education Correspondent

Teachers' leaders yesterday accepted an offer of a 7.5 per cent pay increase, backdated to January 1, as part of the award expected to be made when the Clegg Commission on pay comparability produces its report.

Employers and union officials on the Burnham Committee, the national negotiating body on teachers' pay, reached agreement last night after a meeting lasting more than eight hours.

The teachers had earlier rejected a 6 per cent offer.

When the Clegg Commission announced earlier this month that it would not be able to produce an interim report, the teachers asked for an immediate 10 per cent increase on March 1, 1979, salaries, equivalent to 9.2 per cent on present salary levels.

Yesterday's offer includes a payment of £288, if that is more than 7.5 per cent on a teacher's salary. The teachers had been promised that they would be paid the first part of any award arising out of the expected Clegg report on January 1, 1980, and the rest on September 1, 1980.

The teachers are seeking a total rise of 33.7 per cent, of which yesterday's agreement represents 16.5 per cent.

Stephen Cohen of "The Times Educational Supplement" writes: "The first results of the Clegg commission's comparability study on teachers' pay are so 'wildly erratic' that they cannot be used in their present form. The commission has asked the firm of management consultants which devised the job comparison exercise to try again."

In the meantime, Professor Hugh Clegg, chairman, and four commissioners are embarking on a round-trip tour of 20 schools and colleges to see at first hand exactly what teachers do for their money.

Professor Clegg has told teachers' leaders that if the new job-for-job comparison study does not produce reliable results a decision will be reached on more traditional lines by considering in closer detail the evidence submitted by unions, employers and government.

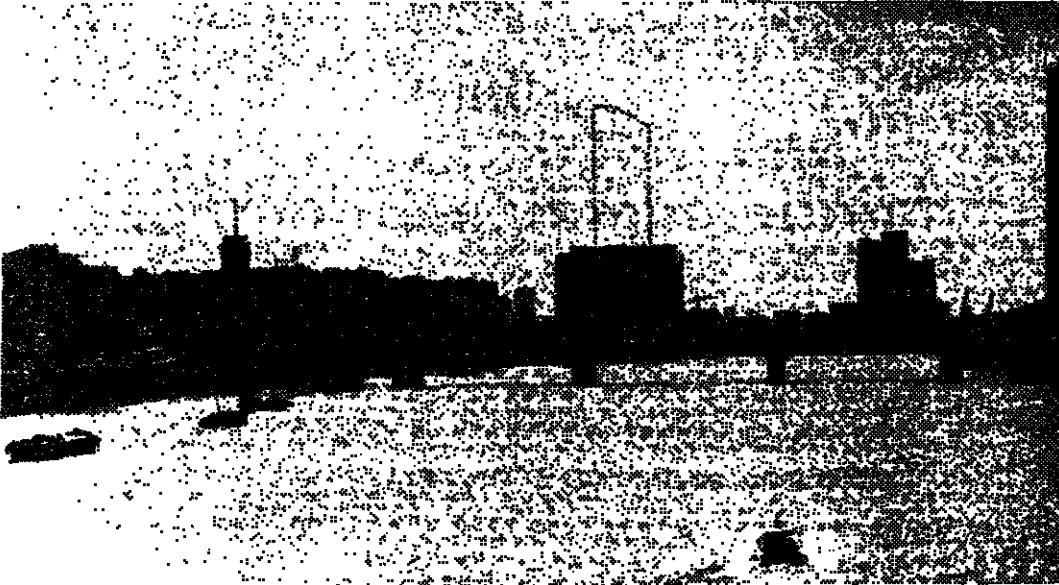
If the study was used in its present form, some teachers would get 70 per cent rises, others would get 5 per cent, and a few would get pay cut.

The commission is confident that more reliable results will be produced from the second stage of the exercise.

Inbucan/AIC, the consultants hired by the commission, said that although some degree of eccentricity was foreseen, it was not expected to be so big.

The difficulties have arisen in the lists of jobs drawn up by judging panels. Sixty occupations, 20 of them in teaching and 40 in other areas of work, have been placed in order of worth by the judges.

The orders by rank for primary and secondary school teachers are published in the Times Educational Supplement today.



"Thames giant" defended: Proponents and supporters of the planned 500 ft office block on the south bank of the Thames, beside Vauxhall Bridge, held a press conference yesterday to answer what they called misleading and ill informed criticisms (our Planning Reporter writes).

Sir Peter Shepherd, professor of architecture and environmental design at Pennsylvania University and a former president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, described the

design of the building as probably one of the most distinguished since the Second World War. Its position and relative height are indicated in the photograph, taken from Westminster Bridge looking upstream.

The Vauxhall site was suitable for a tall building because it had a wide expanse of water in front of it, and an expanse of roads, railways, derelict sites and indifferent buildings on its other three sides: "It looks like the end of the earth," he said.

Fees shock for overseas students

By Our Education
Correspondent

Some overseas students will have to pay fees next year that are six times higher than their present ones, according to a study by the Clegg Commission on pay comparability.

The study, however, has so far decided to charge the minimum fees recommended by the Government for overseas students, which vary from double to five times present levels.

Despite those huge increases, demand from overseas students for places at British universities remains remarkably high. Figures released yesterday by the University Central Council on Admission (UCCA) show that applications to undergraduate courses are 12 per cent down on last year, but only 4 per cent down on 1977.

However, many applications will have been made in ignorance of the Government's decision last November to recommend minimum fees for

overseas students of £2,000 for an arts course, £3,000 for a science course and £5,000 for the clinical year of courses in medicine, dentistry and veterinary science. Fees this year are £940 for all undergraduates, and £1,230 for post graduates.

The recommended minima represent the full economic cost of the courses in the cheapest university. In many universities costs are higher, but most are nevertheless deciding to charge the minimum fees in order, no doubt, to attract the maximum number of overseas students.

Universities have been predicting that the new fees could lead to a drop of between three-quarters and a quarter of their normal overseas student intake, and that would mean a severe and possibly even disastrous loss of income.

Oxford University has decided to stick to the Government's

recommended minima except for its arts courses, for which it will charge £2,200. Cambridge, like many other universities, has yet to make a final decision, but is expected to adhere to the minima for arts and science.

Most of the London University colleges, including the London School of Economics, under a third of whose students come from overseas, have likewise decided to charge the minimum fees, as have Bristol, City University and Essex.

Manchester University Institute is to charge £2,500 for arts and £3,000 for science. Brunel is to charge £2,500 for arts and £3,900 for science; and the Cranfield Institute of Technology has decided to charge fees varying from £3,000 for non-technological courses to £5,000 for courses in aeronautics.

Board games for the bored commuters a new line

By Penny Symon

Midlands businessmen commuting to London by rail next month will not be allowed to doze quietly over their newspapers. British Rail, introducing "in-train entertainment", will be urging them to play cribbage, draughts and other board games throughout their journey.

The 7.46 am from Northampton, returning from Euston at 5.23 pm, has been chosen as the first "game train". In five coaches, British Rail will overprint a games board on to standard rail car tables.

If commuters react favourably, the scheme will be extended to trains from King's Cross to Scarborough, so that British Rail can assess whether families like the idea.

Instructions will be printed on the tables, and a "play kit" of cards, counters and dice will be available from buffet car staff, and at station bookstalls, for 70p.

This attempt to change a train into a hive of dice-throwing and card-shuffling activity is a result of discussions between Mr Andrew Lauder, managing

director of Waddingtons Playing Card Company, and Mr Harry Reed, British Rail's London Midlands region divisional manager.

"The games will generate a whole new atmosphere on trains and make rail travel even more enjoyable and fun for all," Mr Reed said. "We hope to extend it across the network in due course. Nothing quite like this has been tried anywhere in the world as far as we know."

Mr Lauder makes regular business trips from Leeds to London, and usually carries a game with him. Fellow passengers are urged to join in.

The two new games for the train are four-up, which is a dice game, and a card game called "snake and ladders", a form of snakes and ladders.

The "game train" begins on February 11. It is a far cry from the days when British Rail would warn passengers travelling from Waterloo to Ascot and Epsom on race days to beware of professional card-sharps waiting to pounce.

Open verdict on concert pianist of 22

An open verdict was recorded yesterday by Mr John Dodds, East Sussex Coroner, on Terence Judd, aged 22, the concert pianist, described by his teachers as "a man of extraordinary talent" whose body was found as the floor of Beachy Head, Sussex, on December 23.

He disappeared from home in London on December 16, only a few days before he was to have begun a Russian tour.

The coroner, sitting at Eastbourne, said it was difficult to give a hard and fast verdict. Mr Judd left home after lunch on December 16 and it was found he had bought a one-way rail ticket to Eastbourne, and been recognized by a ticket collector at Victoria station, London.

Mr Dodds said: "He knew Eastbourne and the Downs and he went there, suffering from a slight depression. Obviously a man of his profession would suffer a certain amount of strain with his ardent practising to keep him at the top. The country, particularly the musical life, is much poorer than his pasting."

Mrs Violet Suchet-Kaye, a neighbour, said she saw Mr Judd after he left his home and they talked about general family matters and his forthcoming Russian tour. He was looking forward to it and his manner gave no hint of depression.

'Psychic power' of twins fails to save zoo animals

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

The psychic powers of Mr George and Hugh Palmer, identical twins, did not allow for the economic depression, for they can no longer afford the cost of running their park at Barry, which is Wales's only animal zoo.

The brothers, who are offering the 10-acre site for development at about £75,000, admitted yesterday that they can no longer provide a safe home for their lions, tigers, leopards, monkeys and reptiles.

They claim that their psychic powers enable the two train their animals using their extraordinary vibrations.

Mr George Palmer said: "Most people think we are cranks. But it really works. We can let our lions and tigers lie on our chest without being mauled because our psychic powers give us an understanding of the animals which no other trainers would have."

As though to prove the point, Mr Palmer is trying to keep an 18ft python alive during the cold weather by taking it to bed with him.

Smaller animals such as guinea-pigs and lizards were given away as pets to children.

"We hope to turn the zoo as a going concern," Mr Palmer said. "Whatever happens, there is no question of having the animals destroyed."

Synod motion calls for a debate on homosexuality

By Our Religious Affairs
Correspondent

Opponents of a more liberal church policy on homosexuality are expected to try to persuade the General Synod of the Church of England next month to condemn by implication an official report which departs from the traditional teaching.

A motion has been tabled calling for an early debate on the issue, a tactic that is being interpreted as a way of cutting short uncertainty on where the Church of England stands.

The report at issue was prepared by a working party of the Board for Social Responsibility, and caused considerable controversy even before it was released.

The board published a state-

ment separating itself from some of the working party's recommendations, but it was not intended to bring the two documents to the attention of the general synod until a period of digestion had passed, an interval which the more liberal party hoped would see a growing tolerance towards a growing member's motion has been tabled, which, if carried, would oblige synod officials to bring the matter forward for debate in the summer.

The homosexuality issue has become one of the most keenly felt controversies in Anglican circles, and those advocating an early debate are said to feel that uncertainty should be resolved as soon as possible. The

Jury clear TV executive of car murder

The jury also found him not Alan Gardner, aged 47, a television executive, was acquitted by a jury at Winchester of murdering Sheila Uren, aged 30, whom he had planned to marry last September. Mr Gardner, chief accountant at Southern Television, said: "It has been an absolute nightmare."

Mr Gardner said he put up with outbursts of temper from Miss Uren, who, he added, often said she loved him because he loved her. She died when she leapt at him "like a polecat" as they were driving to his home in Southampton from an evening out.

He grabbed her by the throat and held her as "she" leapt at him, he said. "I realized what had happened and tried to kill myself."

16 top bridge pairs in championship

By Our Bridge
Correspondent

Sixteen of the world's top bridge pairs, representing 11 different countries, are competing in The Sunday Times pairs championship in London, acknowledged as one of the world's prestige events.

Ten world champions are in the field, which has representatives from Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, England, Holland, Italy, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela.

Gabriel Chagas and Pedro Paulo Assumpcao, of Brazil, the Olympic champions, are defending the title. Their strongest challenger is likely to come from North America, represented in four of the partnerships.

Only two British pairs have been invited. They are last year's runners-up, Tony Friday and Claude Rodriguez, of London, and Barbel Steen and Victor Goldberg, of Glasgow.

Omar Sharif, the film actor, partnered by Paul Chelms, of France, will be hoping to improve on his fourth place last year.

The tournament, which started last night, is being played at the Hyde Park Hotel, with sessions today at 8.30 pm and at 2.0 pm and 8.30 pm tomorrow, with the final session on Sunday at 2 pm.

Tragic Belfast mother 'died four years ago'

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Mrs Anne Maguire in reality died nearly four years ago of a broken heart, her priest told a packed Roman Catholic church at her funeral in Belfast yesterday.

In the summer of 1976 three of her four children were killed by a car driven by an injured IRA man trying to escape the Army; he too died.

The children, Joanne, Andrew and John, were buried from the church in which yesterday's service was held, St Michael the Archangel, a short distance from where the tragedy happened, in Finaghy Road North. The Peace People movement sprang up in a spontaneous and emotional response to the tragedy; tens of thousands of people were in-

volved and a fortune was given.

Mrs Maguire died at her home on Monday from wounds inflicted with a carving knife.

Miss Mairead Corrigan, the peace movement leader and Nobel Prize winner, read the first lesson, and Mrs Maguire's husband, Mr Jackie Maguire, the second. Father James Kelly, describing the burden she bore, said: "The horrific deaths of her little children and her own injuries; the long physical drive back to fitness; the emotional stress that drove her to try to find peace in a new life in New Zealand; and the consistent heartbreak that made her return to Northern Ireland to where her children died. A broken heart was the cause of her death. She died four years ago."

Former waiter cleared over girls' earnings

Salvador Vella, aged 68, a former head waiter, was cleared by a jury at Knightsbridge Crown Court, London, yesterday of living off the earnings of prostitutes working as hostesses at Churchill's Club, in the West End.

Judge Morton directed the jury to acquit Mr Vella after submissions by his lawyer, because of insufficient evidence.

Judge Morton said Mr Vella, of Marlborough Place, St John's Wood, London, had been living off his wages as an employee of Harry Meadows, aged 63, of Queen Street, Mayfair, who owns Churchill's Club, and his son, Andrew, aged 36, of Chesterfield Gardens, Westminster, have pleaded guilty to living off immoral earnings.

The trial continues today.

Lords refuse Khashoggi plea

Mr Soraya Khashoggi, former wife of Mr Adnan Khashoggi, a Saudi Arabian financier, lost her attempt yesterday to stop the Daily Mirror from publishing disclosures of her private life.

Three Law Lords refused her leave to appeal to the Lords against a Court of Appeal refusal to continue the ban on publication.

Air crash deaths up 32% last year

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

A total of 1,267 passengers were killed in 20 big airline accidents last year, a 32 per cent increase on the 962 deaths in the previous year. That is shown by figures collated by Flight International, the London aviation journal, published today.

There were 20 accidents, compared with 27 in 1978, but the increase in the number of people who died was "out of line" with traffic growth, which the International Civil Aviation Organisation has estimated for last year at 10 per cent over 1978. The total passengers carried by the world's

airlines probably exceeded 900 million.

Last year's worst accidents involved a DC-10 which crashed at Chicago on take-off with the loss of all 13 crew and 259 passengers, a DC-10 in Assam, when all 20 crew and 237 passengers were lost, and two Aeroflot Tu 134s which collided in mid-air with the loss of 173 people.

The magazine says that the year was dominated by the DC-10 accident at Chicago on January 25 when the left engine and pylons assembly fell off an American Airlines DC-10 just after take-off.

"Chicago showed, as had such previous disasters as Tenerife and Paris, that acci-

dent investigation can quickly become clouded by the commercial efforts of interested parties to avoid liability.

"The instant recognition of the 'broken bolt' theory by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was an indication that the whole United States civil aviation industry wanted a quick answer to solve its con-science."

The magazine says that first reports of the crashes of DC-10s in the Antarctic and at Mexico City indicated that the aircraft were at fault. "In practice, enough has been published about these accidents for the aircraft to be wholly exonerated from blame. Human, rather than technical, fallibility will carry the responsibility."

Budget review on Scots theatre

Proposed budgets for a new Scottish theatre company will be considered by the Scottish Arts Council in April, Mr Alexander Dunbar, the council's director, said yesterday.

He said the council was not yet committed to the scheme, and its decision would depend particularly on the size of its government grant for 1980-81. He said the new company would be an independent body. "It is not the council creating its own touring company."

Fire damages opera house

From Our Own Correspondent
Belfast

The Belfast Opera House, which was to have reopened in April after extensive renovation, was damaged by fire early yesterday and is not expected to be in full production before September.

The building was bought by

مكتبة الزمان

HOME NEWS

Brighton Catholics to wait six months before they can marry

By Clifford Langley
Religious Affairs
Correspondent

In an innovation that may be adopted elsewhere, the Roman Catholic diocese of Arundel and Brighton has imposed a six-month period of waiting on couples wishing to marry in church. The present rule requiring six weeks' notice has been changed to allow time for a preparation course for engaged couples.

Increasing concern at the divorce rate, which has not been matched elsewhere in the country, is the reason for the change, said the Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, the Right Rev. Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, said it was hoped that a preparation period would "enable couples to understand fully what they were doing in entering into Christian marriage". He hoped it would improve the quality of marriage generally.

The Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales are reviewing their rules on marriage, but further experiments such as that at Arundel and Brighton are not expected until after the Synod of Bishops meets in Rome in the summer to discuss the whole issue.

According to the latest available figures, Roman Catholic marriages make up about 10 per cent of the total in the country. Separate statistics for divorce are not kept, but Roman Catholic marriage experts are increasingly concerned at what appears to be a growing tendency to divorce.

Father Matthew McInerney, of St Mary's Church, Brighton, one of the 119 parishes that are taking part in the scheme, said: "Too many marriages are breaking up and we hope this will prepare young couples for the realities of marriage. Many youngsters have a romantic idea of marriage but do not realize its pitfalls."

At present some preparation is given to couples by priests in the six weeks' period of notice now required, but this will be extended to include talks by doctors, lawyers, and older married couples. The Catholic Marriage Advisory Council is arranging the talks. The new marriage rule could be set aside in urgent cases, on special application, and the acceptable reasons would include pregnancy.

Soliciting 'should be made legal'

By Our Home Affairs
Correspondent

Soliciting should no longer be a criminal offence, the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro) has told the Criminal Law Revision Committee in evidence published today.

But if it remains an offence, then that should be more narrowly defined, made non-imprisonable and apply also to male kerb-crawlers.

The association adds: "We urge that serious consideration be given to an idea that has been put forward by the board of visitors of Holloway Prison, that a temporary ban should be made on the imprisonment of prostitutes for an experimental period."

It finds it not surprising that groups and organizations involved in the prison service should be favourably disposed towards a change in the law on soliciting.

In the experience of Dr Megan Bull, governor of Holloway, prison fails to direct prostitutes into other ways of making a living; on the contrary, prostitutes may well exert a recruiting influence on the many young prisoners in Holloway.

The association also points out that the Prison Officers Association has said: "They seem to be able to sail through their sentence and so on doing what they have always done. Prison is not going to touch them."

Proposals for reform of the 1959 Street Offences Act (Nacro, 169 Chappam Road, London, SW9 0PU).

Im 'Queen's Chinese' as UK citizens

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

There may be between a million and 1,500,000 persons of Chinese descent ("Queen's Chinese") who may have a claim to United Kingdom citizenship but are almost certainly ineligible, says a letter to Lord Bethell.

The letter does not mean, however, that they have an automatic right to citizenship. Nor do people from other places mentioned in the letter, who represent sizeable numbers with a possible entitlement to United Kingdom citizenship.

Like other Commonwealth citizens, United Kingdom passport holders may come to Britain as students or visitors and under other such headings. But controls on the entry of United Kingdom passport holders were devised at the time of the Commonwealth Immigrants Act, 1962, in the shape of special vouchers, when the government feared a sudden influx from East Africa.

The Home Office said yesterday that the vouchers were introduced specifically to take account of difficulties that certain United Kingdom passport holders were undergoing in their country of residence.

Giving the latest estimates of United Kingdom passport holders subject to immigration control residing in certain countries overseas, Lord Trevelyan gives the following figures: India, 39,000; Kenya, 17,000; Malawi, 4,500; Malaysia, 30,000; Morocco, 457; Pakistan, 1,700; Sri Lanka, 40; Tanzania, 9,000.

Council on Tribunals asks for greater powers

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

The Council on Tribunals, the body which supervises and advises on the workings of more than 50 administrative tribunals, has asked to be given greater statutory powers to enable it to do its work more effectively.

In a report on its own functions, the Council says that there is a "significant role for an effective, independent, statutory advisory body in the field of administrative adjudication, with both detailed knowledge and more general insight linked in a systematic manner."

The need was especially important given the emphasis being placed on the protection of individual rights.

The council recommends that it should have the right to be consulted whenever any legislation was being drafted which affected its jurisdiction. At present, the council was in fact sometimes consulted on planned legislation, but there was no obligation on Government departments to do so.

When the council's opinion has not been accepted, the minister concerned should be obliged to disclose that fact when introducing legislation before Parliament, the council proposes.

It also wants its role as a general statutory advisory body over the whole area of administrative tribunals to be confirmed unambiguously by law.

The Functions of the Council on Tribunals (Stationery Office, £2.50).

The Annual Report of the Council on Tribunals, 1978/79 (Stationery Office, £2.75).

Police criticized for dropping student charges

From Our Correspondent
Oxford

Mr John Mackay, chairman of Oxford magistrates, criticized the police yesterday for withdrawing charges against six undergraduates involved in a street clash.

The undergraduates were bound over to keep the peace after the police offered no evidence against them on charges of threatening behaviour.

Mr Mackay said: "We find it difficult for the police to conduct an inquiry which they assume involved damage to public property, the abuse of public services and even the attendance of a police dog."

Mr Edward Liddell, for the prosecution, said a mock battle developed when undergraduates from Jesus and Lincoln colleges tried to get into Exeter College and were repulsed by water bombs. Firemen answered a hoax call and found themselves in the middle of a fight.

The police were criticized by the defendants were Richard Barton, aged 18, Christopher Bailey, aged 19, Matthew Barnes, aged 20, Christopher Andrews, aged 18, and David Stewart, aged 19, all of Exeter College, and David Murdoch, aged 21, a medical student at St. John's Hospital, London.

Lakeland farmer blames leaking pipes for floods

From Our Correspondent
Whitehaven

The Department of the Environment inquiry into plans to raise the levels of two lakes was told yesterday how land around Ennerdale, in the Lake District, was being affected by leaking water pipes. One farmer said a pipeline on his land was leaking from every joint, causing floods.

The inquiry, at Whitehaven, in its seventh day, was hearing evidence from objectors.

The farmer, Mr James Rickaby, of The Mill, Ennerdale, said: "The pipeline is leaking from every joint, and it is flooding areas of my land."

The inquiry is into two planning applications. One involves the North West Water Authority, which wants to raise the level of Ennerdale Water, providing more water for industrial use. In the other British Nuclear Fuels Ltd wants to raise the level of West Water, giving more water for the Windscale nuclear plant.

Mr Rickaby said that if the Ennerdale scheme went ahead he did not think he would be able to live there.

The authority promised a report on the pipeline.

WEST EUROPE

Men named in Spanish magazine shot dead

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Jan 24

For the second time this month, a man has been shot dead after a magazine article named him as a right-wing extremist in the Basque country.

The owner of a bar in Baracaldo, near Bilbao, Señor Alfredo Ramos was one of 19 people named in a newspaper series about right-wing extremists in the mass circulation Spanish weekly *Interviú*. He was kidnapped and shot dead, presumably by Basque separatists, according to reports published here today.

Another man named by the magazine, Señor Jesus Garcia, was the first Basque terrorist victim this year. He was shot dead after an article identified him as the organizer of ultra-right "uncontrolled commando units" operating in the Basque region.

The accusations against alleged right-wing activists were contained in articles prepared with the cooperation of a former member of the national police, which appeared last December.

The same articles also named seven bars in the Basque provinces as gathering places for fascist militants, and three places allegedly used as firing ranges and training camps for terrorists of the right.

The latest victim, Señor Ramos, was described by the magazine as a "Galician" who gets his kicks out of taking part in clashes with *abertzales* (Basque patriots).

He had written to several Bilbao newspapers after the article appeared, claiming: "I am innocent in every regard of everything which has been imputed to me." The magazine has not yet published his letter protesting against its story about him.

Shortly before 3 pm yesterday two hooded men entered his bar in Baracaldo, the same town in which a bomb in another bar killed four people last Sunday.

They ordered his wife, daughter and niece, to refrain from calling police and they forced him to get into a waiting car and leave with them.

Half an hour later a Bilbao newspaper received an anonymous telephone call telling where his body could be found.

No organization made any immediate claim of responsibility for the killing, but police suspected the killing was connected with the ETA movement. The movement killed one alleged police informer last Saturday and seriously wounded another last Monday.

A recent communiqué from the organization said it would continue to attack "all the grasses and parallel police" until they decide to abandon southern Euzkadi. (In Basque terms this means Spanish Basque provinces, and northern Euzkadi, refers to the French Basque departments).

EEC and Yugoslavia speed up talks on new trade agreement

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Jan 24

The EEC and Yugoslavia are to resume negotiations next week in Brussels on a new trade agreement designed to improve the access of Yugoslav industrial and agricultural goods to Community markets and reduce the country's heavy trade deficit with the West.

The negotiations are to be conducted by Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the EEC Commissioner for External Affairs, and Mr Stojan Andov, the Yugoslav Minister for External Trade.

It is hoped that the new agreement will be concluded in time for ceremonial signature by Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the European Commission, when he visits Belgrade towards the end of next month.

EEC foreign ministers, gathered on the news of President Tito's illness, resolved earlier this month to reach rapid agreement on a new trade relationship with Yugoslavia, which has been the subject of talks but unenthusiastic negotiations for more than two years.

The ministers' haste reflected an awareness that any post-Tito threat to Yugoslavia is less likely to come from direct Soviet military intervention than from Soviet exploitation of internal tensions exacerbated by the country's severe economic difficulties.

Since the foreign ministers' decision, the permanent representatives in Brussels of member states have been working on a much more generous trade offer to the Yugoslavs. The final details of this new negotiating brief for Herr Haferkamp were agreed today.

President recovering: President Tito is recovering well after the amputation of his left leg last week and is already undergoing rehabilitation treatment, his doctors said today.

They said in a bulletin that the general condition of the Yugoslav leader, who is 67, remained good. It gave no details about the rehabilitation treatment, but medical sources said they believed it would include physiotherapy involving sitting up and leaning on the right leg so that the muscles do not weaken through lack of use.

Yugoslav doctors ignored advice of American and Soviet experts and conducted the unsuccessful operation that in turn led to the amputation of President Tito's left leg, the British medical magazine, *Pulse*, said today.

In its current issue, the magazine said Dr Michael Deakey of the Houston Medical Center and Dr Marato Knjazic, the Soviet cardiovascular expert, did "not believe the arterial blockage in the lower left leg was amenable to surgery and they feared such an operation might cause gangrene to develop and lead to the amputation of the leg."—Reuter and UPI.

W Berlin in £125m railway land deal with E Germans

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Jan 24

East Germany and the West Berlin Senate today signed an agreement on unused railway land belonging to the former German Reich Railway Company in West Berlin. Like all West Berlin property in Greater Berlin, the land is under East German administration.

The agreement provides for the building of a new, modern railway goods station. The building costs of DM490m (about £125m) will be paid for by the Bonn Government and the Berlin Senate in exchange for the East German putting scattered and mostly unused railway land at the Senate's disposal.

As a result, West Berlin will gain an area of about 60 hectares (148 acres) for city planning purposes. The plans, which were drawn up during the 10-year negotiations, provide for new streets during the first construction phase; this will be followed by the building of common recreational facilities and sports sites in a densely populated area.

As the main railway and the S-Bahn (elevated city railway) systems are under East German administration all personnel are employed by the East German state railways. Earlier this month, the railway gave notice to 78 employees, all residents of West Berlin, of redundancy notices came as a surprise and aroused great indignation.

Today, 20 people employed by the East German railways, some of them members of the Communist Trade Union Federation (FDGB) released an open letter sent to the railway organization demanding that the notices be withdrawn.

The letter strongly criticized the FDGB for not standing up for the workers and for failing to protect their interests. It described the East German railway rationalization attempts as "knitting patterns of early capitalism."

So far no official East German explanation has been given for the dismissals. Only *Die Wahrheit*, the organ of the West Berlin Communist Party, commented on the matter. According to the newspaper, the "continuing inflationary developments in West Berlin" had made the dismissals necessary.

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So far no official East German explanation has been given for the dismissals. Only *Die Wahrheit*, the organ of the West Berlin Communist Party, commented on the matter. According to the newspaper, the "continuing inflationary developments in West Berlin" had made the dismissals necessary.

Rome musical tribute to memory of bassoonist

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Jan 24

It is a commonplace that death concentrates the mind; it is especially true when the death is somebody else's and Carlo Maria Giulini is on hand to conduct a concert to mark the event.

The man who died was Antonio Viri who played the bassoon in the Orchestra of Santa Cecilia. He was 44. Signor Giulini says that he was a man of great humanity.

The conductor is here for a series of concerts which began on Sunday with a performance of the Brahms Violin Concerto with Nathan Milstein as soloist and ends on Monday with a German requiem. The death of Signor Viri, who died on Sunday, was certainly as great as the Berlin Philharmonic's farewell a quarter of a century ago to Furtwängler, with the much more weighty choice of the Erlang and the four sons sung by Fischer-Dieskau.

In fact the occasion was not fundamentally sad. Signor Giulini may have been more involved with the slow movements of the requiem was one of enthusiasm rather than mourning. He produced an atmosphere of enchantment not of death.

The success was immense. It was an occasion which Rome will look back on, because it is unlikely to be repeated. This was the only reason for regret.

Envoys gain right to alien brides

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 24

It has been a rule, at least since the end of the last century, that French diplomats have to obtain the authorization of the Foreign Minister to marry a foreigner. But the Council d'Etat, on the basis of an acrimonious brought by one of the diplomats to quash the Minister's decision prohibiting him from marrying a Bulgarian woman, has decided that this rule is unconstitutional.

The verdict is based on Article 34 of the constitution which states that Parliament alone can lay down the rules governing "the fundamental guarantees granted to military and civil personnel employed by the state." In other words, by restricting the freedom of diplomatic and consular officials to choose their spouses, the Government has encroached on the powers of Parliament.

The first government decree introducing such restriction goes back to 1894. It was confirmed by another in 1938, and a third in 1951, at the time of the cold war. So until the National Assembly votes a law that diplomats must obtain authorization to marry a foreigner, restrictions upon them in the matter have been removed.

In practice, however, the minister allowed mixed marriages in nine cases out of 10, yet been disclosed about the committee's discussions. It is believed that they included entering the Socialist-backed candidate for the Presidency next year: a stern fight against the communist-sponsored United Peoples Alliance and the consolidation of the Socialist Party as a workers' party.

They also wish to end the ruling Democratic Alliance's majority in Parliament by "firm and continuous opposition" by developing an image of a workable alternative to the present centrists.

Stressing that there was no real misunderstanding between different socialist currents within the party, Dr Soares said that alternative proposals for party action which were advanced by the three outgoing members gained 25 per cent of the committee's votes.

203 safe after airliner crashes

Munich, Jan 24.—All 203 people on board an Air Jamaica DC8 airliner escaped unhurt today when the aircraft burst a tyre on landing at Riem airport here and crashed into landing lights.

Avalanche kills Briton in lorry

Aosta, Italy, Jan 24.—A British woman hitch-hiker was killed today when the lorry in which she was travelling was crushed by an avalanche near here. She was named as Patricia Maureen Grihaute, aged 21.

Socialists drop 'old school' leaders

From Jose Sherdiff
Lisbon, Jan 24

Growing tension between two opposing factions of the Portuguese Socialist Party have resulted in significant changes in its secretariat.

After lengthy and heated discussions at a meeting of the party's national committee in Oporto over the weekend, it has been announced that three of the "old school" members of the party, have been replaced by younger and little publicized militants.

The outgoing members are Dr Manuel Alegre, a poet and former Secretary of State for Culture under Dr Mario Soares; Dr Tito de Morais, a founder of the Portuguese Socialist Action Group which preceded the present Socialist Party; and Dr Jaime Gama, a former Socialist Minister of Internal Administration.

Their withdrawal from the secretariat follows fundamental differences of opinion about the political strategy of the Socialist Party during the 1980s.

The weekend meeting was to finalize this future strategy for putting the party on its feet again and to regain the prestige and power it held when it won the 1976 elections to become the governing party.

The decline of the Socialist Party and its loss of government was accelerated by the dissidence of many important members, some of whom subsequently formed separate left-wing groups.

These groups have so far shown little likelihood of achieving power, but they have proved to be seriously debilitating to their original party.

Although nothing official has

OVERSEAS

New Zealand expels Soviet envoy for giving money to leftist party

From W. P. Reeves
Wellington, Jan 24

Mr Vsevolod Sofinsky the Soviet Ambassador to New Zealand, is to be expelled immediately for passing money to the Moscow-aligned Socialist Unity Party, it was announced here today.

Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, said that Mr Sofinsky had been seen by security officers handing the money over. Mr Muldoon said he believed the amount involved was "quite large."

Mr Sofinsky is the second Russian to be expelled this week. On Tuesday the Government ordered Dr Sergei Zimin, a journalist with the Novosti news agency, to leave within 72 hours. He was expelled as a protest against the Russian intervention in Czechoslovakia.

Mr Sofinsky has been in New Zealand less than a year. He served as a counsellor at the Russian Embassy in London between 1963 and 1969.

Mr Muldoon said the Ambassador's action was wholly unacceptable to the Government.

"The evidence on which this decision is based is conclusive," he said. "It was obtained by the Security Intelligence Service in the course of its routine surveillance of Soviet diplomats."

"The Government, however, does not intend to make any of this evidence public. To do so would prejudice and inhibit continuing investigations."

Mr Muldoon saw the incident as confirmation of the Government's belief that the Socialist Unity Party is financially supported by the Soviet Union and subject to direction from Moscow.

He said: "The personal involvement of the Ambassador shows that this is a matter of official Soviet policy."

The Socialist Unity Party, which broke with the New Zealand Communist Party in 1956, is not proscribed. It is thought to have a membership of no more than a hundred or so but nevertheless has some influence on the industrial scene.

Mr Muldoon said that the party had been at the centre of much of the industrial strife that had plagued the country in recent years.

Mr Kenneth Douglas, the party's secretary, is also the general secretary of the powerful Federation of Labour. Mr William Andersen, the party's president, is chairman of the Auckland Trades Council.

Though Mr Andersen denied any knowledge of the incident involving Mr Sofinsky, the party would receive from the Soviet Union would be for fares for delegates going overseas to conferences, he said.

Landing radar 'off' in fatal Iran air crash

By David Warrs

When an Iran Air jetliner crashed at Tehran airport on Monday night, killing 128, the important Instrument Landing System (ILS) was not working.

Earlier this week the Revolutionary Council said that all systems had been operating normally at the time of the accident. The Council said the industrial action controllers had been taking had ended some 12 hours before the crash.

The aircraft, a Boeing 727 of Iran Air piloted by a South African, crashed in a snowstorm in the Elburz mountains north of Tehran after the pilot had circled for some time hoping that the weather would improve.

According to a source on an airliner which landed safely shortly after the ill-fated Boeing, the ILS was not working at the time of the accident. The ILS gives the pilot of an aircraft a constant reading of the aircraft's height, speed, distance from the runway and alignment to the runway's centre-line.

It is of great assistance to pilots, particularly at night or in bad weather, to be able to

monitor their progress on the ILS as they approach to land. With the ILS not working the captain of the aircraft must rely on his skill and on the machine's instruments to tell what is the attitude of the aircraft and its height.

Circling in a snowstorm without ground assistance, it is possible for a pilot to become disoriented, with fatal consequences in such inhospitable area as the Elburz mountains.

According to the source, the ILS was still switched off when the succeeding flight landed but the pilot is thought to have had more experience of Tehran airport and he landed safely without assistance from ground radar.

The Revolutionary Council has now taken possession of the ill-fated Boeing's flight recorder, which makes a record of the flying attitude and speed of the aircraft, and which would provide valuable evidence for any inquiry into the crash.

Staff at Tehran airport have been in dispute with the country's rulers over the replacement of managers at the airport by people considered more loyal to Ayatollah Khomeini's Islamic regime.

Amnesty offer in Namibia

From Our Own Correspondent
Cape Town, Jan 24

An offer of an amnesty to some, but not all, South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrilla fighters operating from Angola into Namibia was given a qualified welcome by politicians in the territory today.

The offer was made last night by Professor Gerrit Venter, the Administrator-General, promulgating a resolution by the Namibia National Assembly urging that guerrillas who had been forced to join SWAPO should be given the chance to surrender and return peacefully to their homes.

The Administrator-General's offer was welcomed by Pastor Cornelius Ndjaba, Chief Minister of Ovambo, Mr Dirk Mudge, leader of the Democratic turn-Halle Alliance, and by Mr Eben Van Zyl of the right-wing Akur Party, who said those who had been forced or lured across the Angola border must be allowed back home without fear of retribution. Pastor Ndjaba said pamphlets explaining the amnesty were being distributed to the guerrillas.

Sale of £5m US art collection

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Auction aficionados are to be treated to the American answer to Montmore and von Hirsch when the art collection of the late Mr and Mrs Edgar W. Garbisch comes up for sale in May. The collection is estimated to fetch more than \$10m (about £5m).

Mrs Garbisch was the second daughter of Walter P. Chrysler, founder of the car manufacturing firm, and the Garbisch home—"Pokey"—on the eastern shore of Maryland—was inherited from him. There will be a house sale at "Pokey", and an auction of the most important treasures in New York.

Edgar William Garbisch and his wife Bertha Chrysler Garbisch, died within hours of each other on December 14, aged 80 and 72 respectively.

Their collection of American Naive painting is famous throughout the United States. The best of it has been donated to the National Gallery in Washington, the Metropolitan Museum in New York, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Few are aware that they also owned an important collection of Impressionist and modern paintings. Among the prize items in the Sotheby auction will be a 1923 oil painting by Picasso entitled "Seated Acrobat with Folded Arms", which previously belonged to Vladimir Horowitz, the pianist.

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Released nurse starts her journey home

Bangkok, Jan 24.—Miss Rita Nightingale, the British nurse freed from a 20-year jail sentence for heroin smuggling, left today for Delhi and Frankfurt, British Embassy sources said.

Miss Nightingale, aged 26, from Blackburn, Lancashire, chose not to go directly to Britain but was expected to arrive there within 48 hours, they said.

Earlier, Miss Nightingale, who served less than three years of her sentence because of a grant of clemency by King Bhumibol, went shopping under police escort for some warm clothes for her arrival in Britain.—Reuter.

Seoul takes up N Korea's summit proposal

Seoul, Jan 24.—South Korea today accepted a North Korean proposal that their prime ministers should hold talks as soon as possible on ways of reunifying the two parts of Korea, divided 35 years ago.

Representatives of Seoul and Pyongyang met three times at Panmunjom early last year after a call by the late President Park Chung Hee to talk "at any time, place or level" but the contacts failed to make headway because of differences over representation.—Reuter.

PUBLIC AUCTION AT LONDON AIRPORT

HIGH QUALITY HANDKNOTTED PERSIAN CARPETS & RUGS AND FINE HANDMADE RUGS OF OTHER ORIGINS

Ordered in 1979 for contracted delivery November 1979 through Brokers for London Importers for Seasonal Sale

Due to internal strife in Iran and intermittent closure of Teheran Customs the bales of Persian rugs could not be moved on contracted dates and were finally airfreighted to Amsterdam to join other bales for transshipment London.

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OVERSEAS

Russia shows anxiety in Paris talks for French good will

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan 24

France is about the only country in the West which is still on speaking terms with the Soviet Union, after the intervention in Afghanistan and the arrest of Dr Sakharov, the dissident scientist.

In response to President Giscard d'Estaing's letter to President Brezhnev on January 15, insisting on a positive demonstration—that is a withdrawal of Soviet troops—that Moscow still wanted détente, Mr. Georges Kornienko, the Deputy Foreign Minister, was sent to Paris to give further details.

He arrived last night in the same aircraft as M. Jacques Chaban-Delmas, the President of the National Assembly, who had cut short his stay in Russia because of the Sakharov affair.

Mr. Kornienko spent the better part of the day at the Foreign Ministry. M. André François, the Foreign Minister, cleared the Russian action both in the Afghan affair and over Dr Sakharov was intolerable, and pressed for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan as soon as possible.

The communiqué issued after five hours of talks was hardly illuminating. But it is clear that the French disapproval of Soviet action was stated bluntly. It says that the Foreign Minister "recalled that the French

Government considered the Soviet intervention unacceptable, and that such an action constituted a serious threat to the achievements of détente."

Taking note of the stated intentions to withdraw Soviet forces from Afghanistan as soon as conditions allowed, the minister emphasized that the execution of this intention would be a decisive element in appreciating whether the rights of the Afghan people and the requirements of peace were respected.

The fact that the Deputy Foreign Minister to Paris to explain his Government's position is significant. It indicates both an embarrassment on the part of the Soviet Government over the uproar in France provoked by this double blow to détente, and its desire to preserve its "privileged relationship" with France in spite of it.

The Sakharov affair, coming on top of the intervention in Afghanistan, confirms the French view that if Russia remains fundamentally attached to the principle of détente in Europe it feels that it can take the communist line in its defence of world opinion.

The French standpoint, however, reiterated with force by M. François-Poncet today, is that détente is global, and cannot be confined to the West.

China joins spirited fight for US vodka sales

From Michael Leapman, New York, Jan 24

China is seeking to exploit the anti-Russian mood in America by muscling in on the vodka market. Out-and-out arfare of the most explicit nature is declared in a spirited full-page advertisement which appeared in a number of newspapers yesterday.

Headed "Did the Russians misallocate?" the advertisement showed a bottle of Stolichnaya vodka standing next to a bottle of Tsingtao, a newly introduced Chinese variety.

"America's love affair with Russian vodka appears to be on the rocks," the advertisement began. "And the big question in liquor circles is: 'What vodka will they drink in its place?'"

The answer was not long in coming: "The only vodka with sufficient prestige to supplant the Russian import is the famed Chinese vodka Tsingtao."

According to the Russians, their intervention in Afghanistan has expressed itself in some instances by resistance to Russian vodka. Though it would be an exaggeration to call it a national trend, the importers of Stolichnaya—the only Russian brand sold here—have been sensitive enough to take down billboards advertising it and to suspend press advertisements.

Even the Russians are going to keep a low profile until the Russian situation is cleared up," a director said.

Last week, a discotheque in New York invited customers to smash all the bottles of Stolichnaya it had in stock. A bar in Tallahassee, Florida, has a sign reading "Never to Stolichnaya" hanging over the counter, and there have been similar demonstrations elsewhere.

Not only vodka has been affected. A Los Angeles firm planning to market souvenirs of the Moscow Olympics featuring the Russians' "Misha the bear" symbol, has now abandoned the project. Mr. Stanford Blum, the head of the firm, said that numerous retailers had cancelled orders.

"Nobody wants to have the stigma of Russia attached to them," he said.

Sales of Stolichnaya last year amounted to about \$60m (£22m). Even the traditional vodka gin with a splash of dry vermouth—is now often made with vodka and you have to ask for a gin Martini to be sure of getting one of the original kind.

The largest share of the market is held by Stolichnaya vodka which sells for about \$6 a bottle, two-thirds the price of brands imported from Russia, Poland and Finland.

The Chinese Tsingtao is more expensive still, at \$10, and it has been struggling to gain acceptance.

Banishment of Dr Sakharov reflects Kremlin thinking there is nothing to lose in post-invasion crisis Soviet move to liquidate dissent

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Jan 24

The bold condemnation of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan by the remaining members of the Moscow Helsinki human rights monitoring group, to which Dr Andrei Sakharov, the exiled dissident leader, lent his name, may be one of the last such statements to find its way into the hands of Western correspondents.

With the banishment of Dr Sakharov to Gorky, the dissident movement has lost its last remaining figure of any stature. Stating that he would himself move to move against the doyen, the Soviet leadership is not likely to hesitate in silencing those still active in issuing protests and statements.

Virtually all the leading figures in the Helsinki group, monitor Soviet compliance with the provisions on human rights in the accords, are in prison, exile or abroad. The Soviet leadership took a decision many months ago to "clean up" Moscow before the Olympic Games, and the KGB (security police) will not leave the job half done.

Things will be much harder. I am ready for arrest," Mr. Roy Medvedev said, philosophically today. Mr. Medvedev, a historian and former party member, does not consider himself a dissident.

He does not sign protests, issue statements or stand with outside courtesies. He does not support President Carter's grain embargo, or call for an Olympic boycott. But he admits the atmosphere is changing. He has been under observation and he has to be careful.

To the authorities, he is a dissident as much as all the others. They make no distinction between religious activists, liberals, right-wing nationalists,

still calling themselves Marxists.

All are seen to oppose the authority of the Communist Party and embarrass the state, and the decision has been taken to liquidate—though not in the literal Stalinist sense—in this opposition.

Dr Sakharov was always the real problem. For a long time he commanded residual respect at home and considerable respect abroad. If the Russians had moved against him last year, they would have provoked a crisis with the West similar to the one that followed the identical trials in 1978, jeopardized the Salt 2 agreement and damaged valuable scientific links with America.

But after Afghanistan the Kremlin had nothing to lose. President Carter had done his worst: what more could Moscow expect?

Though the Sakharov affair may have especially upset those Europeans who felt that the Americans had over-reacted to Afghanistan, the Kremlin probably calculated that in the general crisis atmosphere it would not now make very much difference.

For all their expressions of outrage, Brand and West German would not change their policies to the Soviet Union for the sake of one man, even a Sakharov. It is to these European countries that the Russians are now looking for a post-Afghanistan relationship with the West.

Though the drive against the dissidents is closely linked to the Olympics, Dr Sakharov's banishment was only possible because of the general breakdown in détente. As Mr. Medvedev admitted, while himself condemning any measures against Dr Sakharov, from the Soviet administration's point of view sending him to Gorky was

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Peace still reigns only 40 miles from Kabul

From Ian Murray, Jalrez, Afghanistan, Jan 24

The shabby Afghan soldier in the dirty grey blanket uniform hesitated for only a moment. The Government he was saying, might not like it if we went on. But he was unarmed and seemed not to be very insistent so we drove on.

Less than a mile up the road a group of ten armed men emerged from a hut and waved us down. As we stopped, they came to the side of the car, peering in with suspicious, almost angry faces. They flung open the door and invited us to step out. They asked: "Where are you from? What are you doing about their question. Were you Russians?"

Out came our passports and with much waving and shouting of the only word we thought might help, we were quickly ourselves understood. "Ingilski." They shouted and then smiled and pressed round to shake hands.

One of them piled in to the front of the car with his ancient 303 wedged against the roof. Our driver set off again, saying "English man, French man, American man, all good man. Russian man, bad man."

We had arrived over the border into insurgent-held territory after a minimal amount of passport formalities. From then on the man with the 303 was our safe-conduct through the territory held by the mujahideen fighters.

It seemed a peaceful enough land as we drove on. There were children walking along the road, the only difference between this and the Government-held side seemed to be that all the men carried a gun or weapon of some sort.

At the edge of Jalrez, a large group of armed men, led by a tall, black-bearded tribesman, blocked the road. Our escort got out and after some explanations we had to shake hands all over again with everyone.

At the far end of town we were told to get out and we set off with our escort through the snow to the checkpoint.

Before the black-bearded chief arrived with his own armed escort, and demanded to be interviewed.

He was Jem Muhammad Milon. Don't the fighting head of 500 Pashtun tribes, he said. His men had been fighting for a long time against the Russians.

and the Afghan Army and had killed many thousands of them. In a big battle in the town of Baniyan the week before he had destroyed two tanks and killed 350 men.

He and his men were supporters of the Hizbe Islami group, which is a near fanatic Moslem organization. In his view, the Russians now ruled in Kabul but he and his men would go on fighting them. As far as he was concerned, the Russians only controlled the towns at the moment. The whole of the rest of the country was under insurgent control.

There came a knock at the door and a silver-bearded man came in. The rebel leader sprang to his feet. This was Jalil Mullah Hama, the chief tribesman of the entire area. Despite the apparent lack of telephones or other communications the news of our arrival had spread quickly.

He spoke with respect. Like the headman of this tribe for generations before him, he was the virtual king of the area. The writ of the Government of Afghanistan does not run in his territory any more, and he did before the Russians arrived. He is the law in his own lands.

In talking to him and his mujahideen leader, it became obvious that we had not so far changed the real fighting or trouble in the area since the snows came and the Russians arrived. During the summer there had been a certain amount of shooting by helicopters and snatching by tanks here and there.

Many women and children had left to seek refuge in Pakistan, but the bulk of the population were still there, and with the snow and the mujahideen to protect them, they seem to have not so far changed the real fighting or trouble in the area since the snows came and the Russians arrived. During the summer there had been a certain amount of shooting by helicopters and snatching by tanks here and there.

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Many women and children

OVERSEAS

S Africa has £400m to spend from gold revenue surplus

From Eric Marsden
Cape Town, Jan 24

The South African Cabinet is faced with a problem that most Western countries would be glad to have: what to do with an estimated surplus of £400m over the revenue from gold budgeted for the two years, 1978-80. It also has to contend with several longer-term problems which are less pleasant.

Even if the gold price falls to hold the high levels it has reached in the past two weeks, the flow of extra revenue seems likely to continue throughout 1980.

Government ministers have said it would be used to repay foreign debts and continue tax reforms. This is being interpreted to mean there is a good chance of more cuts in personal income tax and company tax in the budget in March.

The Government is under strong pressure, however, to use its windfall to increase spending on housing, education and training programmes for blacks. This has been called for by the two main opposition parties, the Progressive Federal Party, led by Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, and the New Republic Party, led by Mr Vause Raw.

Mr Pieter Borha, the Prime Minister, is also anxious to undertake projects to improve black living standards, which would be seen as the first practical fruits of his pledges of reforms during the past year.

But he has to be careful not to overdo the largesse and risk

antagonizing some of the more conservative elements in the ruling National Party, which are already nervous about his apparent eagerness to change South African society.

Mr Botha is understood to have been told by some of his colleagues that there could be a backlash from unexpected quarters, which could endanger party unity, if the pace of change is too ambitious. Not only the Verkampe wing, led by Dr A. P. Treurnicht, but some of the more moderate MPs fear that a too-hasty approach could be dangerous.

According to the extreme right-wing Herstigte Nasionale Party, there is already a split in the National Party and more of its members are joining the NNP. Mr Jasp Marais, the party leader, forecasts that Mr Botha will call an election sometime between April and July this year.

Mr Marais claims there is a great deal of tension in the ruling party and suggests the Prime Minister will want to delay this by making good use of the high gold price. He also points out that public servants are to receive pay increases in April. The longer Mr Botha would do at the polls, he says.

The cabinet which has begun a series of meetings likely to continue throughout next week, is expected to devote a lot of time to consideration of the legislative programme for the parliamentary session due to open on February 1.

Violence grows against Jerusalem Christians

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Jan 24

Last Monday, when Mr Charles Cope arrived to open Zion House, his modest but popular Bible shop near the centre of Jerusalem, he found the city's Jewish Christians being dashed from top to bottom in red and black paint. Among the swastikas and abusive Hebrew scrawlings, was one slogan which stated angrily, "Missionary pigs go home".

The incident was the latest in a recent string of attacks on Christian institutions in the Holy City which is causing growing concern to Mr Teddy Kollek, the Jewish Mayor, and a number of opposition Labour politicians, who claim that Israel's reputation abroad is being badly damaged.

The attacks are all believed to be the work of members of extreme right-wing Jewish Orthodox groups.

In addition to attacks on Bible shops and historic buildings, such as the Russian Orthodox church and the Mount Zion monastery, the anti-Christian campaign has also taken other, more disturbing forms.

Priests have been spat on and cursed by young religious Jews, the secretary of the Russian Orthodox church and his six-year-old son have been sent threatening letters and, last month, a youth wearing a skull cap burst into the Christian Information Office in East Jerusalem and began to destroy a special Christmas display.

Over the last two months, the Jerusalem municipality has spent over £2,000 repairing vandalized Christian institutions under its declared policy of

paying for any damage caused by "inter-ethnic violence".

Earlier this week, Mr Kollek wrote to Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, warning him of the deteriorating situation and appealing to him to intervene personally and speak out against the campaign of anti-Christian violence by Jewish extremists. As yet he has received no reply.

The appeal was prompted by the suspicion, shared by many senior municipal officials, that local police were deliberately soft-peddling their response to the upsurge of Jewish vandalism because of the political power of some of Israel's most extreme Orthodox groups.

Complaining that the wave of attacks was seriously damaging the city's reputation for tolerance, Mr Kollek told reporters: "The police should deal with the perpetrators of these acts in the way that they deal with the perpetrators of terrorist outrages."

No organization has claimed responsibility for the attacks but the similarity of the targets and methods suggests a strong degree of co-ordination.

In a recent letter Mr David Jaeger, liaison secretary of the United Christian Council in Israel, commented on "the mounting anxiety within the Christian community... caused by the recently stepped up activities of anti-Christian fanatics."

The disturbing new campaign against Christian churches and buildings comes at a time when the Jerusalem authorities are already anxious about the growing violence between secular and religious Jews, particularly over the emotive issue of Sabbath observance.

No prosecution of police chief who fled Kenya

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Jan 24

Mr James Mungai, the former Kenyan assistant police commissioner who fled from Kenya soon after the death of President Kenyatta in 1978 and returned here last month, will not be prosecuted in connection with an alleged plot to kill President Moi and other leading figures in Kenya, Mr Charles Njonjo, the Attorney General announced here today.

Mr Njonjo had earlier said he was one of those who would have been killed if the plot, aimed at preventing Mr Moi from succeeding President Kenyatta, had succeeded.

Mr Mungai was senior assistant commissioner of police at Nakuru, in the Rift Valley Province, which includes Nakuru, where President Kenyatta spent much of his time. He drove across the border into

Sudan, and later made his way to Switzerland, from where he returned voluntarily last month.

After his disappearance, Mr Njonjo described him as a leading figure in the Ngoroko (assassins) affair. Mr Mungai, however, wrote from Switzerland to say he had been wrongly accused, and knew nothing of the alleged plot.

Mr Mungai was escorted from the airport here last month by security personnel, and has apparently been held in custody since then.

In a statement today, Mr Njonjo said he had considered the whole matter from the time of Mr Mungai's disappearance and the plot, and had decided it would not be in the public interest to prosecute Mr Mungai.

"The Ngoroko affair is a closed chapter. We should all forget it as a bad dream in our country's history", he added.

92 in court after rice uproar

From M. G. G. Pillai
Kuala Lumpur, Jan 24

The Malaysian Government moved swiftly today to defuse the effects of yesterday's demonstration by more than 10,000 rice farmers demanding higher prices in Alor Setar, the Kedah provincial capital, 300 miles north of here.

A group of Government ministers arrived here today as the round-the-clock curfew on the town was maintained and 92 demonstrators were brought to court and charged with rioting and damaging government property.

The situation in the town itself is calm, the curfew keeping the streets deserted. Paramilitary police and federal reserve units placed a tight cordon around the Alor Setar magistrate's court when the 92 appeared. Sixty-six pleaded guilty and the others claimed trial.

Mr Shabri Yusoff, the magistrate, refused them bail and remanded them until February

12 when he will sentence those who pleaded guilty and announce trial dates for the others.

The demonstration began peacefully over demands that the prices the farmers receive for their rice crop was not high enough but Daruk Syed Nohar Shahabuddin, the Kedah State Chief Minister, alleged that unnamed military groups were involved.

When the demonstration got out of hand the farmers threw stones at government buildings and tried to storm the main buildings.

This morning, Government sources said the demonstrations were organized by the opposition Pan Malaysian Islamic Party (PMIP).

The PMIP and the United Malays National Organization (UMNO), the dominant partner in the ruling national front coalition of Datuk Hussein Onn, the Prime Minister, are the two main Malay political parties.

Government officials appear to have been caught unawares

Controversial Rhodesian auxiliaries set out to neutralize Patriotic Front

Platoons who sing in Bishop Muzorewa's green belt

From Nicholas Ashford
Fort Victoria, Jan 24

The line between the security force auxiliaries and politics is a thin one, according to Major Nick Fawcett of the Rhodesian Army. He explained the role of the auxiliaries, whose activities are causing so much controversy.

They are also known as Pfumbe Revanhu and are "apolitical" in the sense that they do not support any political party, although one of their tasks is to propagate what is referred to as the "national ideology of Zimbabwe".

However, the auxiliaries are being deployed around the country with the deliberate intention of coercing people into voting for Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council (UANC).

On a visit to an auxiliaries camp at Zaka, deep in the Ndonga tribal trust land, about 50 miles south-east of here, a platoon undergoing training sang songs in support of Bishop Muzorewa. The only election posters in the vicinity were those of the UANC, even though the region is known to be a stronghold of Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party.

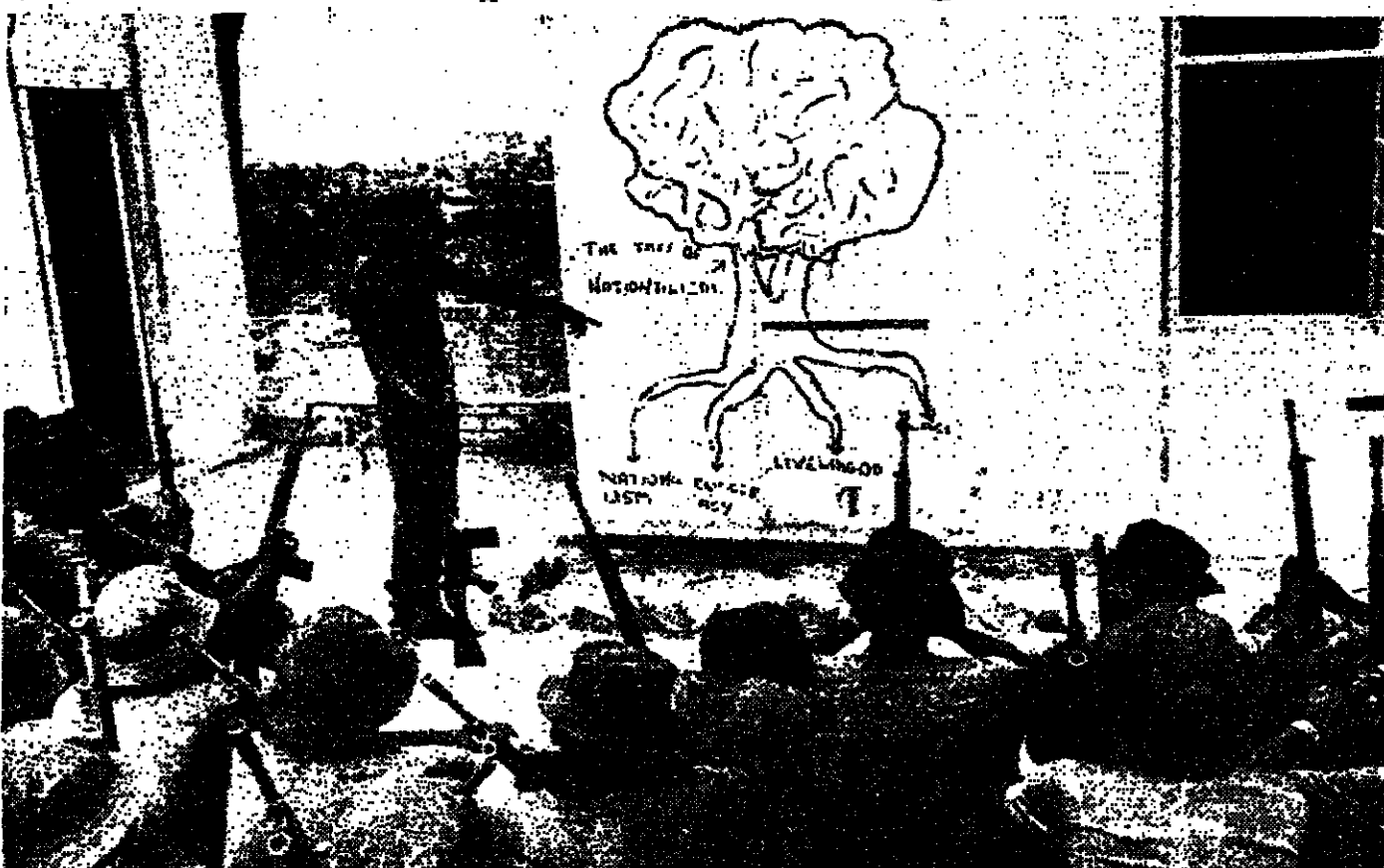
However, Mr Neil Lawton, the local District Commissioner, rejected charges that the auxiliaries were imposing the UANC on the local population by pointing out that Zanu (PF) recently held a well-attended and peaceful political rally at Jerera a few miles away.

Similarly, Mr Alfred Collins, a British monitor of the Rhodesian police based in Fort Victoria, said there had been less than 20 charges of violence laid against members of the auxiliaries since last November.

He thought this indicated a reasonable level of control and discipline, considering that there were some 4,500 auxiliaries operating in the Fort Victoria area, known as operational area "Repulse" by the Rhodesians.

But exactly who are the auxiliaries and what do they do?

The force was initially set up after the March 3, 1978, internal agreement to provide a role for



A group of auxiliaries listen to a talk on "Zimbabweism", the principles of which are symbolized by the tree roots.

guerrillas who were loyal to Bishop Muzorewa and other internal leaders.

There were soon complaints that the Pfumbe Revanhu were acting as private armies for their respective political leaders, so it was agreed that they should be brought into the structure of the regular security forces.

However, their role differs from ordinary security force units in that the auxiliaries are not only supposed to combat the Patriotic Front guerrillas but also to act as a sort of political counterbalance in rural areas where the influence of the Patriotic Front is strong.

"The auxiliaries are the one

organization that poses a threat to the grassroots support of the terrorists", Major Fawcett, said, "because they alone can meet the terrorists on their own terms. That is why there is now so much opposition to the auxiliaries."

Their main function is to "win over the local population and to motivate it to support the (former) Government of National Unity and its administration". Another function is to "propagate the national psychological message" which is known rather ponderously as "Zimbabweism".

The four principles of "Zimbabweism" are presented in the form of a sturdy tree with

four roots representing nationalism, democracy, livelihood and peace. The auxiliaries distribute a propaganda booklet about "Zimbabweism" which projects them as the people's friends and their defenders against "CIs" (communist terrorists).

Somewhat inevitably "Zimbabweism" is the antithesis of Zanu (PF)'s style of socialism. For the last six months auxiliaries in the Fort Victoria area have been operating on the basis of what is known as the "green areas concept". Under this, an auxiliary unit of about 50 men is placed in an area of four miles in diameter from which they first expel the

guerrillas and then establish themselves among the local inhabitants.

Once this is done the area under their control is gradually enlarged. The aim is to establish a chain of interlocking "green areas" so that the guerrillas are completely neutralized in that region.

Major Fawcett produced a map covered in rings showing "green areas" which had been established in the heavily populated tribal areas around Fort Victoria since last summer. In Ndonga tribal trust land he estimated that almost a quarter of the 120,000 inhabitants were now covered by "green areas".

Mr Smith to face challenge by two liberals

From Our Own Correspondent
Salisbury, Jan 24

Mr Ian Smith, leader of Southern Rhodesia's 220,000 whites, faces a three-way contest in next month's election to fill the 20 white seats in the country's 100-seat Parliament.

When nominations closed today, Mr Johannes Huley and Mr Don Speedie, two white liberal independents, were listed as facing Mr Smith in the small rural constituency of Selukwe.

The Rhodesian Front is fielding candidates for all 20 white seats. In all but six of them the Front's candidates are unopposed. The only seat where the party could face serious competition is the Salisbury constituency of Mount Pleasant where Mr Chris Andersen, the Front's candidate and former Minister of Justice, is opposed by Mr Nick McNally, an independent.

Mr McNally is a leader of the liberal National Unity Force (NUF) although it recently announced that it was not contesting the election.

Bishop Abel Muzorewa's United African National Council (UANC) has decided not to field any white candidates as originally planned.

It is understood the main reason for this change of heart is that the Rhodesian Front is considering forming a coalition with the UANC after next month's election in order to prevent Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) from coming to power.

A group of Commonwealth observers, drawn from 11 nations, arrived in Salisbury today to watch next month's election. Meanwhile pressure for the release of the 71 dissident members of Zanu (PF) held in Mozambique has continued to mount.

It was announced today that Lord Soames, the Governor, had sent a letter to President Machel of Mozambique, urging him to secure their release by this Sunday, the day that Mr Mugabe intends to return to Salisbury.

Orphaned at 5. On the streets at 6.

In Bangladesh, one of the very poorest countries on earth, is a town called Chittagong.

It is a special town because someone very special lives there—a priest called Father Dujurrier.

He never thinks about himself. Never spares himself. He is too busy helping the Street Boys, the orphaned beggars who, without Father Dujurrier, would have no home, no hope and no one to care for them.

They have no mothers or fathers. Yet in a way they do have a father—Father Dujurrier.

And he cares, very, very much. He takes them in off the streets into his school, where they are given a basic education. Then they are streamed into further training courses in which they are taught a trade.

These boys go on to get good jobs and their future is secure, in the most insecure land on earth.

This is truly wonderful work. Important work. It is not one-off help but long term work, because the grants from Oxfam have helped pay for the necessary tools and equipment.

This is why Oxfam are so pleased to support Father Dujurrier and many other self-help projects all over the world.

There's so much more to Oxfam than most people realise.

Why not send for our interesting leaflets and find out more about what Oxfam really does?

I'm interested. Please send me more information about Oxfam's work in the poor countries.

Name _____

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I enclose a donation of £ _____ in the meantime. Room 13, Oxfam, 274 Banbury Rd., Oxford OX2 7DZ.

PARLIAMENT, January 24, 1980

Lord Carrington sets out British measures against Russia in protest at invasion of Afghanistan

House of Lords
The Government has decided to avoid high level and ministerial contact with the Soviet Union in protest at its invasion of Afghanistan, announced in a statement.

The Government, he added, believed that the Olympic Games should be moved from Moscow and could be held in several different countries if necessary. Lord Carrington said: "The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is an event of the widest significance. For the first time since the Second World War, Soviet troops have been sent in massive numbers outside Europe to establish a military hold on a sovereign, non-aligned country. The Soviet action is a breach of all the conventions which have governed East-West relations for the last decade. It is a vivid demonstration of the Soviet drive to gain wider influence wherever possible, by propaganda, by subversion, and where necessary by force."

Together with the arrest of the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Dr Sakharov, it reflects cynical disregard for world opinion. It is bound to affect our attitude in current and future negotiations between East and West. We naturally want those to continue where they clearly serve our own interests as well as those of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan."

The West itself needs to find ways to make the Russians understand that they cannot break the rules of international behaviour with impunity, either now or in the future. This entails responses by individual countries and by the West's collective organisations, above all by Nato and the European Community."

The British-Soviet credit agreement, concluded by the Labour Government in 1975, expires on February 16. Its terms were too favourable to the Soviet Union since the export credit was subsidised more than that which we extend to other countries.

The Government's view is that all trade should be pursued on a basis of mutual advantage. We shall apply that principle to British-Soviet trade. We do not

propose to renew the credit agreement when it expires. Credit in future will have to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Assuming that other western countries do likewise—which would be very much to our collective advantage—we shall provide export credit to the Soviet Union at rates more favourable than those set by the international consensus on credit terms.

On technology, we are studying with other countries the tighter application of the COCOM rules for controlling the transfer of sensitive technology to the Soviet Union.

The European Community has decided not to export any food to the Soviet Union which would directly or indirectly replace supplies denied by the United States.

The Government has also decided to avoid high level and ministerial contacts with the Soviet Union for the time being. These include the transfer of military changes, which were under consideration. They will avoid the kind of cultural and cultural exchange that nothing has changed and thus appear to condone Soviet aggression.

In accordance with the agreement between the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Soviet Union, the transfer of broadcasts by the BBC to listeners in the Soviet Union and Afghanistan is now under the question of the Olympic Games. Her Majesty's Government sympathises deeply with the Olympic ideal and the young people from all over the world should be able to compete freely together with no overtones of politics.

But this view has never been shared by authoritarian governments, which exploit such events for their own propaganda purposes. In 1936 for the Nazi government, so now for the Soviet Union the Olympic Games are a major political and propaganda device to impress the whole world with the prestige of the system.

For the Games now to be held in Moscow would appear to condone Soviet aggression abroad and repression at home.

Lord Carrington said the Soviet motives were complex. His judgment was that the opportunity would be open for the Russians, should they so wish, to expand by subversion and other means in any direction they cared to.

Lord Wigg (Lab) said that in May, 1979, the government of the day introduced a measure to register all young men. It was not a question of call-up but registration to enable the government at short notice to take steps to impose conscription on the young men of the Armed Forces. Britain was the only country in Nato incapable of expanding at short notice.

Lord Carrington—I do not think the Government can feel that the situation at the moment makes it necessary to re-introduce conscription or anything of that kind.

The Government is increasing spending on defence. That is extremely important. What we will obviously have to do in the light of what has happened in the area of South-West Asia is to keep our defence policy in that area under review.

We must contribute to the security of our friends with equipment and military training and with the periodical employment of naval, air and land forces in the area, but I do not think we see at present any need to re-establish a substantial permanent United Kingdom military presence in the area.

Lord Alport (C) asked if the Government intended to give Pakistan increased economic aid in the near future.

Lord Carrington—The problems of Pakistan are both economic and political. It is the Government's intention this year to increase aid to Pakistan. We shall be giving something in the region, all told, of the equivalent of £30m.

Danger from subversion still equal to that of invasion

House of Commons

After Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, had repeated the statement on Afghanistan, Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab) said: "I want to emphasise that our contemplation of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has not changed the fact that the danger from subversion is still equal to that of invasion."

Mr Gilmour (Ipswich, C) said: "I stated that our trade credit was only taken up to about 50 per cent. I confirm that we make a distinction between eastern Europe and the Soviet Union."

On the Olympics, it remains to be seen how much support we will give for the games that the United States, ourselves and other countries have taken. The fact that 104 countries are taking part in the games is at least a promising start.

We are not going back to the age of the Cold War, but we are not going to let the Soviet Union use the games as a platform for subversion and propaganda."

I welcome the renewed interest that the United States is taking in this area. We must see what comes out of their consultations with the countries concerned.

We are facing something we have not faced for 35 years. There must be a significant response from the West. At the same time, we must ensure that countries in the West are enabled by our help to react sensibly to this threat.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C)—The invasion of Afghanistan following on the military

occupation of Ethiopia and Aden implies that the threat to southern Asia and the Middle East is not just and subversive to the directly military.

Has he noted President Carter's statement that if need arise, the United States would be prepared to defend the Gulf area by force. Can the Lord Privy Seal assure us that the Government has considered the different ways in which we might help our American allies if the need arises.

Sir Ian Gilmour—I agree the Soviet behaviour in Afghanistan shows a readiness to use military weapons as opposed to the more traditional weapon of subversion. In spite of that, the danger from subversion is still equal to that of invasion.

We shall, of course, maintain the closest contact with our American allies and our friends in the area about all possible measures to contain this threat.

Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, L)—A month ago the Government initiated a common approach in Nato and has not yet achieved it. Can he indicate what hope he has on this?

Could he also say something on reports that General Gaudin is preparing to make up the shortfall of United States grain?

Sir Ian Gilmour—On Nato it is a bit unfair to say we have been slow to develop a common approach. It is an agreed view that an alliance would take longer to come to an agreed view than individual countries.

Mr Gilmour—That is for the

fall of grain. So far as I know, it is not true that the Soviet Union is giving a guarantee to the Gulf States and reactivating the register of those eligible for the draft. Sir Ian Gilmour—I do not think he is altogether fair in talking about the inadequacy of our response. There is a limited amount of grain in the world. It is not easy to get it. We are keeping in close contact with the United States about the Gulf.

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THE ARTS

A present fixed between fervour and failure

The Big Fix (A)
Plaza 3

Escape from Alcatraz
(AA)
Plaza 1

A Different Story
(AA)
Classic Poly. Regent
Street

Belle de Jour (X)
Minema

Moses Wine is stuck uncomfortably between nostalgic memories of his youthful idealism as a Sixties radical, and conformity with respectability and the establishment—the price of maturity as a divorced husband and harassed father in the Seventies. While contending with the demands of his former wife, his admiring children and an octogenarian Marxist aunt who is determined to keep him up to her own high principles, he works as a private investigator. He is not a success, though he makes the most of such assets as a broken arm which provides him with a lot of prestige on account of the colourful explanations he gives for it. He meets and falls in love from Berkeley days; and to his surprise gets a good assignment, to flush out a notorious former activist who is discrediting a cautiously liberal politician by promising to reveal the support for his campaign. Moses finds himself swamped in ever deeper and murkier waters as his investigations reveal the growth of neo-McCarthyist witchhunts of former radicals. He also learns the fate of one-time heroes of the movement: some end up dead; others make their own accommodations with the fleshpots of the establishment.

The Big Fix is probably more in the nature of a white comedy than a black one. Roger L. Simon's script (from his own novel) tells a sad story of lost illusions and hardening arteries in both self and society, in terms that stay brisk, bright and funny even at the grimmest moments. Jeremy Paul Kagan—33 and with a doctorate in Russian literature—looks, on the strength of this film and his earlier no less idiosyncratic *Heroes*, one of the most promising new Hollywood directors. He has a staccato, nervy, invigorating style, an ability to make familiar scenes—here the seedier reaches of Los Angeles—look startling, and an infectious delight in eccentricity



Richard Dreyfuss in *The Big Fix*: most of the cuteness gone at last

(compare Rita Karin's wonderful Aunt Sonya).

He even succeeds in knocking out the irritating cuteness of Richard Dreyfuss. Moses Wine is perhaps the actor's best performance; a real comic creation, facing with perky resignation the failure he knows to be his inevitable lot. Kagan's gifts don't go quite so far as they make sense of the over-plotted and helter-skelter finish, but at least the film provides a lot of vitality and intelligence before the debacle.

Don Siegel's *Escape from Alcatraz* is a demonstration that it doesn't matter how often a story is told so long as you tell it well. Richard Dreyfuss's screenplay—even though it is based on a real prison break that took place in 1962, the year before *Alcatraz* was closed—is constructed out of every cliché of the prison film genre, back to *The Big House*. There is the high IQ hero; the sadistic warden; there are off-the-peg convict types from the poetic-souled olderster who grows chrysanthemums to the heavy with a vendetta against the warden, through the lachrymose weeping who doesn't make the break, and the joker with a pet mouse.

Siegel loyally follows the rules of the game: the trading of looks across the dining hall and murmurs between cells; the prison yard encounters; the epigrammatic exchanges between warden and victim; the unjust punishments that lead to violent outbreaks; the smoothly engineered suspense and excitement and final exultation of escape.

When it is done with Siegel's narrative precision, the very familiarity becomes the attraction of the thing. Also of course there is Clint Eastwood, with an ever more complex system of lines carved into his face, and an ever greater economy of effort. He is such a still actor that no one else can get more effect out of a brief, reluctant smile, a sidelong glance or a one-word speech. "What sort of a childhood did you have?" he is asked. "Short," he snaps; and there is all *Dead End* in the reply. The supporting cast includes a new, sinister, Americanized and mannered Patrick McGowan as the warden.

A Different Story is so evasive and so compromised in the way it deals with its wacky theme that it ought not to be likeable; and yet is so, by virtue, probably, of pure good

nature. Albert is Belgian, an illegitimate resident in the States, who has been living by his looks, as the willing lover of a succession of well-heeled men. Stella is also homosexual, with a dramatically neurotic, possessive and suicidal girl friend. Albert moves into Stella's apartment in a rather casual way, and the arrangement is ideal. While she is a slob, he is a great little cock and housekeeper. The over-facile bit of the story comes when they tumble into bed together one night after a birthday party, get the taste for it, and settle down to a conventional family life.

Roles are reversed. Albert gets a job and becomes an executive and paterfamilias. Stella declines into anxious mother and neglected wife. Albert's heterosexuality gets so out of hand that he starts cheating on her. The happy end is only achieved with the promise that the attraction lies in the performance. Perry King has a charming, humorous and dexterous as well as a pretty face; Meg Foster is

an attractively pug-faced new actress of evident gifts.

Belle de Jour is a welcome Buñuel revival. The film was made in 1966, with Buñuel protesting that this really must be his last. Fourteen years on, he now appears at 80, to be on the verge of directing a new film.

Adapted from a somewhat demodé novel by Joseph Kessel, for which Buñuel seems not to have greatly cared, *Belle de Jour* tells the story of a beautiful middle-class wife (Catherine Deneuve) whose fears of her own frigidity drive her to work in a brothel. Buñuel turns Kessel's psychological study into a surrealist-inspired exploration of an erotic dreamworld. Even his most ferocious films are always tempered by an infallible taste; and this bizarre catalogue of sadism, masochism, fetishism, necrophilia and worse has about it a paradoxical chasteness. Above all, there is Buñuel's cleansing, caustic comedy.

"Why", he asked in exasperation at what he felt was the excessive reverence accorded this work, "don't audiences laugh more at my pictures?"

David Robinson

Wayward Mozart

ECO/Pommier
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Stanley Sadie

There are numerous ways of playing Mozart, and we heard a selection of them at Wednesday's Queen Elizabeth Hall concert. As many, in fact, as there were Mozart items. In charge of this interpretative showcase was Jean-Bernard Pommier, better known as a pianist (in which role we also heard him), but this time conducting and demonstrating an uncommon adaptability to the styles of his colleagues.

It could be that his own ideas on Mozart are not yet quite focused, or that he is not sufficiently experienced as a conductor to convey them. Whichever is the case, the fact is that the most accomplished and best wrought of the performances was that of the flute concerto K314. Here William Bennett played with its taut rhythm and firm articulation, gave the reading its character.

I have heard this music, and especially the central Andante, more limpidly phrased, more affectionately shaped: Mr Bennett's strength lay rather in the crispness of his technique and the clarity of his tone. He frolicked charmingly through the finale. He gave us inordinately lengthy cadenzas, exploring too diverse and too little relevant a range of flute virtuosity.

In the orchestral ritornellos Mr Pommier shaped a little over-lavishly: there were crescendos and diminuendos to suggest that someone had spilt a packet of hairpins over his score. In the *Serenata notturna* the music was on a much looser rein, appropriately enough; but the style, emanating from José-Luis García who led the solo quartet, seemed to be coming at the wrong kind of sophistication. The ensemble was never quite secure.

Mr Pommier did double duty in the piano concerto K459. I wonder if he is quite ready for this testing role: his gestures were often too vague to carry much message, and his piano playing lacked in proper measure of refinement. The dynamic range seemed excessively wide, with disturbing surges of volume that excluded sensitivity, as well as a good deal of strong, ringing tone. But there was some brilliant, glittering passage-work from time to time.

Finally Mr Pommier conducted Haydn's Symphony No 92: it went efficiently enough, and had ample energy, but largely wanted sense of direction in the fast movements and something more than superficial charm in the Adagio.

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Born in the Gardens

Globe

Ned Chaillet

Alfred was born in the gardens; Alfred the Bristol gorilla who lived a long caged life in the Bristol zoo throwing the occasional dung at visitors. Somewhere in this play of calculated eccentricity, Peter Nichols is saying that life in the cage may offer more satisfaction than the illusion of liberty or the freedom of choice. He says it with jokes and fond demonstrations of happy, odd behaviour; with potent characters who have left their cages for the backbenches of Parliament and the beaches of California.

By inserting an ironical attack on the British theatre, on characters who line up in plotless plays and make jokes that reflect on the state of Britain, he makes sure that his plotless play will also be seen to have its broader meaning.

One needs to be reminded that weighty matters are at hand, for otherwise *Born in the Gardens* might be mistaken for a silly evening, for a play made up of bits and pieces of behaviour that used to be outrageous.

At first there is Maud, the mother, dusting a set of drums and talking to the silently flickering television with blissful disregard for her husband's flower-bedecked coffin in the music room, and then there is the son, Mo, who at 45 speaks of his car's complaints, about his mother's cooking, before he turns up the record player and accompanies old, hot jazz on the drum kit.

Mr Nichols must mean us to admire the cuddly quaintness of the perfectly functioning household before the intruders arrive for the father's funeral. He certainly means to make it seem preferable to the world of the other son, Hedley, an agonising Labour MP who is juggling the affairs of state with an unhappy love affair and unhappy marriage. The daughter's world of California is an automatic joke, and the only uplift she can demonstrate is surgery to her breasts.

There are more titillations, including a smattering of incest,



Jan Waters and Barry Foster

and the general oddness of the mother is enhanced by having Beryl Reid constantly scrambling across the floor searching for the imaginary mines which she claims are ruining her beautiful hair. But "enhanced" is not really the right word, and "mechanized" might better suggest the clock-work eccentricity of the play.

To show that it is not all light-hearted, but about something real, Mr Nichols allows Hedley and the daughter, Peter Bowles and Jan Waters, monologues cast as telephone calls which reveal their private misery, only they are completely unnecessary since the misery has been made public.

The play itself was first made public last autumn at the Bristol Old Vic, and has been reshaped by the new director, Clifford Williams, for the West End. It has one quality which I can recommend with pleasure, and that is the performance of Barry Foster as Mo. He is even likeable, which is certainly remarkable.

Also the solid substance of continuous argument. Contrast, and stark primary colours are substituted, and the music is an interplay of proud musical characters whose differences can never be resolved.

At least, so it normally appears. On this occasion Mr Dorati brought an unusual expressive urge to each of the varied ideas, and though there was still scope for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to show off in brilliance and exultation, the weight of some impersonal tragedy hung over the first movement and drew it into an arc of regret. Similarly, the slow

Bastard Angel

Warehouse

Irving Wardle

Without being tipped off in advance by the Royal Shakespeare Company, I would never have seen any link between Chekhov's *Platonov* and Barrie Keeffe's brutal study of an aging rock star.

All that survives from Chekhov is the image of a great house overrun by an alien new generation and the sense that the good times are coming to an end: plus the spectacle of an outrageous protagonist whose plunge towards self-destruction points the way for the rest of us: "When the revolution comes I'll be the first to go, but in the meanwhile let's have a good time."

The speaker is Shelley, a rock idol pushing 40 but still able to look 17 under the lights, as Charlotte Cornwell demonstrates in the four gigs which punctuate the story of her invasion of a thirteenth-century Essex mansion with a leather-clad entourage who are impressed by her resemblance to the Elizabethan Motley, Alabama.

The sense of desecration to come is implicit in the opening scene where the mob gather in a Brighton hotel room, hand-

ling out cocaine and unzipping themselves into the flower vase. But this is no preparation for what happens next: they are let loose on the estate like the Scythian hordes dreaded by Chekhov's contemporaries.

Before taking over, Shelley announces that she wishes to retain the services of the house-keeping couple, and if that seems a kindly thought we soon learn better. The mob begin by destroying the couple's sleep with night rehearsals; then comes a dinner party with Max, the dignified manservant, keeping a couple, and if that is not enough, the mob begin to scrounge the mud from his boots. Max (Fred Pearson) endures a barrage of insults with impeccable courtesy, until, under Shelley's orders, the group set about violating his over the table. The scene is extremely painful to watch, brilliantly written, and establishes Shelley as a figure who off-stage as well as under the lights, commands attention in a way that wholly excludes sympathy.

Her response to the "snobs" on whom she has revenged herself is to pay them off. Later, when it emerges that a boy she has been sleeping with is the son she abandoned when her marriage collapsed, her response is the same: how much do the foster parents want? Like earlier Keeffe plays,

Bastard Angel views its subject through a double focus of understanding and horror. You can see how these people were formed, but they are still barbarians. The difference in this play is that its protagonist and supporting characters are entertainers who have a chance to escape moral judgment through their artistic loophole. And in this respect, the meaning of the piece escapes me.

Miss Cornwell may or may not have what it takes to be a rock star, but my experience of listening to such music amplified to pain threshold is one of acute physical misery. No wonder she is always complaining about wax in her ears.

What Bill Alexander's production does offer is an authentic sense of a way of life, and a portrait of a survivor who can discard human attachments in favour of cold-blooded business advice for the sake of getting out there and doing it again.

Given such a character, there are passages (such as the final threshold for a dead colleague) that move uncomfortably close to sentiment; but Miss Cornwell's volatile authority makes short work of them.

Among the rather under-characterized supporting roles, there are a few moments close to greatness from Donald Sumpter, Roger Sloman, and Jill Baker.

Miss Jones was in ample voice, sumptuous in her big duet with Graham Clark (dry of timbre, properly romantic), dynamic and earthy in her *Griseuse couplets*. Emile Belcourt's Danilo is a model of court's Danilo: a model of style but made to look too mature, vocally more charming than ringing. Eric Shilling's Mirko Zeta is as jolly and athletic and musical as admirers will expect, and the other Pontevendians are strongly characterized. Full marks to Mr Graham for that, and for the romantic atmosphere that he promised, and handsomely fulfilled.

David Collis's *Art Nouveau* settings, based on the silken frame, filigree in silver and stained glass, give the tone of Lehar's music ideally. His pavilion is a motley dream, the junoqueque silver nude statue only rather extravagant (it is noisily hand-manled in the "Women" septet). Henry Krips conducts a less than scintillating interpretation, often too slow for the singers' comfort. It was sorry to see the rejected Lehar "Silly" reprise, as introduction to Act Three, in favour of an abbreviated "Gold and Silver".

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Michael Shanks on why the European Parliament should share some real power

Now let Euro-MPs use their muscle

Among the great works of literature lost to the world through the temporary closure of the British Museum in 1973 was a piece I wrote on the European Parliament, looking ahead to the then-forthcoming direct elections. It is interesting to compare what I wrote with what has actually happened.

My main theme was that the hopes being placed by supporters of European federation on a directly-elected European Parliament to provide the motor for the next stage of integration were likely to be frustrated. For this thesis I advanced two main reasons.

The first was that the militant "pro-Europeanism" of the parliament, which made it the natural ally of the commission against member governments, was, to some extent, caused by its lack of powers and the fact that its members were not directly elected, and thus were not subject to the pressures of constituents back home who did not necessarily share their European enthusiasms.

Since membership of the European Parliament was an optional extra for national MPs, it tended to attract the enthusiasts for Europe. Since it had little or no power, its enthusiasms were tolerated by those who did not share them. This would change once the parliament became an important institution. It would start to mirror much more the conflicting attitudes and priorities of the peoples of the Community, and cease to be a single-minded pressure-group for integration.

My second reason for scepticism was precisely the very limited powers which the Treaty of Rome gives to the parliament: the fact that it cannot initiate or approve legislation (the former function is reserved to the Commission, the latter to the Council of Ministers and ultimately national legislatures); that its influence on the budget was limited—as was then believed, notably not including the Common Agricultural Policy; that it has no say in the appointment of the commissioners or their staffs or in the allocation of portfolios within the Commission.

While it can summon commissioners to appear before it, it has no authority to remove them. In other words, the parliament, in other words, has been regarded up to now as an essentially advisory body, with the right of consultation on individual draft directives emanating from the Commission but little else. It did not seem to me that this relative powerlessness was understood by the electorates who would be voting for a European Parliament during 1979; so the elections could arouse extravagant expectations which could lead to disillusion and cynicism when the realities of power became clear.

However, the other development which I foresaw once a directly-elected parliament was in place, was a demand by the parliament for more powers—demands which would be resisted by most of the member governments (particularly

France and the United Kingdom), and which would thus precipitate a series of constitutional crises within the Community, of the kind which led to the civil wars in England in the seventeenth century—a direct clash, in other words, between the executive and the legislature.

How far have these expectations been realized? First, what I called in my article "the perfidious infections of nationalism" do not seem to have attacked the parliament as quickly as I had expected. This may be because the link between Euro-MPs and their constituents is still rather shadowy and tenuous. One does not get the impression that Euro-MPs are under much pressure from the folks back home to protect their particular interests against the encroachment of other sectors of the Community.

But this may simply reflect the novelty of the concept, and/or the realization that power still lies with the Commission and the national governments, and that lobbying is best directed to the centres of real power.

Second, the parliament has indeed moved with speed and skill to wrest some power from the executive. In so doing it has discovered within the interstices of the Treaty levers which few people (certainly not I) had realized existed. It was always known that the parliament had the power to dismiss the whole Commission—though not individual Commissioners. This was always seen as being such a clumsy weapon that it was very unlikely to be used.

But it was not appreciated, until an astute Euro-MP discovered it, that parliament also had the right to reject the entire budget—not just, as was previously thought, those parts of the budget designated as "optional expenditure" (essentially, the regional and social funds and overseas aid). It was on this budgetary ground that the parliament launched its attack on the executive, aiming specifically at a reduction in spending on the Common Agricultural Policy.

This move has thrown the other Community institutions into a state of confusion. The Commission, chosen as an extremely popular one, to a Europe neurotic

When the parliament exercises some control over the bureaucracy, the EEC will have come of age

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This move has thrown the other Community institutions into a state of confusion. The Commission, chosen as an extremely popular one, to a Europe neurotic

about inflation and especially about escalating food prices. It is significant that the British Euro-MPs voted solidly for the budget's rejection, despite their hostility to the idea of parliamentary power. Virtually only the French Gaullists and communists voted against.

Second, the response of governments has been confused by their attitude to the CAP and their attitude to parliament. France, which likes the CAP and is pledged to resist parliamentary power, has taken a predictably strong line against the Parliament.

Britain, divided in its hostility to the CAP and its wish to preserve the authority of the executive, has followed a particularly crooked and illogical line.

At the very moment when it was trying to persuade other EEC governments to agree to a major reduction in the United Kingdom's budgetary contribution, the British Government, in the Council of Ministers, voted down a proposal from Italy and Holland which by following the parliament's line would have achieved the same effect. It is not surprising that our friends on the continent sometimes find it difficult to take statements made by the British Government seriously.

Obviously a compromise has to be reached fairly soon on the budget between the council and the parliament; hopefully the revised budget will, *inter alia*, have the effect of easing the EEC budgetary cost to Britain. But in the long run the interesting question is the future role and powers of the parliament, clearly in a fairly

rapid process of evolution.

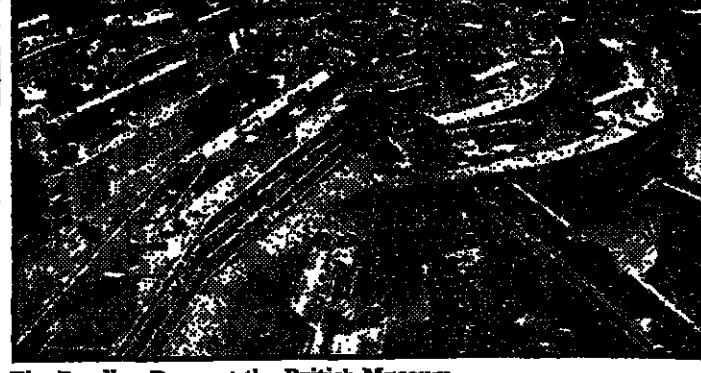
In my article at the end of 1978 I advocated that the parliament should be given authority over the whole of the Community budget; that it seems to have achieved already *de facto*. But there is no reason why the change in the power structure should stop there.

There is no reason why a directly elected parliament should not have the right, along with the Commission, to initiate legislative proposals. There is no reason why it should not have the right to approve or reject the appointment of new commissioners and to dismiss commissioners who fail to satisfy it by their performance. Equally, there is no reason why it should not have the authority to approve or reject agreements reached between the EEC and third countries, including the admission of new members to the EEC.

In other words, the directly elected legislature should share real power in the Community with the national governments and legislatures, and should exercise some control over the bureaucracy—the Commission.

When that has happened, the Community may be said to have finally come of age.

Thus the outcome of the present conflict between the parliament and council on the budget is important for its impact on inflation, on the cost of EEC membership to Britain, on the future of Europe's farm policy; but it is also critically important as a test of the way Europe's institutions are evolving.



The Reading Room at the British Museum.

Growing pains at the British library

The campaign against the new British Library in Euston Road omits facts inconvenient to the argument, and its proponents are not "regular readers". The inadequacy of the present accommodation only become apparent after daily experience of inbuilt shortcomings, inescapably part of the library's present physical limitations, and Professor Hugh Thomas (now Lord Dacre) are visiting aristocrats who do not sustain long periods of work in the Reading Room.

The crux of the case for not building the library, critics around the preservation of the Reading Room because its gilded galleries and soaring dome are seen as a suitable environment for scholars. No one could disagree with this, but the preservation of the physical reality of the Reading Room is already assured.

It was never envisaged that the Reading Room would be dismembered or converted to philistine purposes. Beyond the physical reality, Professor Thomas's case rests on the use of the room exclusively for books and scholars. Sympathetic though one is to this ideal, the consequences of realizing what is, at root, a romantic conception, are too serious to contemplate.

Professor Thomas does not seem to realize that the Panizzi and Smirke Reading Room provides only 35 per cent of the reader places.

There are, in fact, six widely dispersed reading rooms and the library already occupies 17 buildings in London. For every book added to the collections another book has to be removed.

Roughly half the stock of the department is now housed at Woolwich which means that a long distance journey must be made by van, multiplying the delivery time from one to two hours to one to two days and increasing the risk of damage.

Preservation has become a priority since large numbers of books need repair or rehabilitation. The problem of conservation is aggravated because the quality of the paper used for modern book production has deteriorated. The precise extent of book deterioration is known to only a few initiates and Professor Thomas does not appear to be among them.

There is the most important preservation measure: reduction in book movement, freedom from atmospheric pollution and temperature control. None of these operates under present conditions, but all would be available in the new building at Euston Road. Because of its structure, the British Museum cannot accommodate air conditioning plant or efficient book-handling machinery, and service to readers is unacceptably labour intensive.

The stock of the Department of Printed Books occupies 200,000 metres of shelves and the general collection increased by 2,654 metres in 1978-9. World growth in serious book publishing means a three per cent increase in the number of books every year and yet the stock as approximately 10 million volumes that means 300,000 new volumes every year.

This, it has been argued, is no problem at all because deep storage, below the British Museum could be built to accommodate the overflow, or it could be distributed to out-houses in the neighbourhood. The shortcomings of out-housing are already clear and need no further analysis. Deep storage below the museum evokes horrifying pictures of this beautiful and preserved building tottering as engineers try to underpin its superstructure while book-moles burrow miles of shelves underneath.

Alternatively, Professor Thomas suggests that the library should use the Euston Road site as a bookstore depot, shuttling books to and from the Reading Room, but we have already seen that daily movement of all books would endanger the condition of the considerable number which are either rare or very frail.

Searching for new arguments, the campaign has resurrected a long dead dodo which the initiate thought suitably buried years ago. The library, it is argued, should return to its original plan to sweep away the housing, pubs and community surrounding the museum and develop the new building on the old Bloomsbury site, for which it originally asked, linking the old with the new by underground means.

Those who survived the battle between Camden Council, the British Museum and the government over many years will remember that a fully developed proposal on the Bloomsbury site was examined by ministers and planning authorities and rejected.

It was a choice between books and people, between disturbing a whole community and satisfying the requirements of scholars. Ministers in both Labour and Conservative governments opted for people. The Dacron Committee which sifted evidence for several years also came out in 1969 flatly against Professor Thomas, declaring that a new library building was an immediate requisite if the research needs of the country were to be maintained and developed, and the unique collections preserved.

For the rest, the campaign against the new library claims that large sums of money—£160m or more—would be saved by suspending operations on the new building, if not abandoning the whole project. Superficially the case is good, but cuts in the total immediate expenditure would be made, indeed dictated, by phasing the building stages.

The estimate of 12 years for completing the building ensures that the financial burden in any one year would be relatively small. Instead of the much flourished £160m the final design report estimates that up to the end of the financial year 1982/3, only 23.5 per cent would have been expended of the cost of stage 1a, or approximately £19m. This places in perspective any role which the new library could play in the short-term management of the economy or restraint in public spending.

Vincent Brome

Why Iran needs a new figurehead and the West a new strategy

While understanding the United States concern for the hostages it would be encouraging to believe that some sort of strategy was developing for the overall geo-political problem of Iran, the Middle East and the oil supplies of the West.

Instead the actions or rather reactions of the US Administration are held in contempt in Tehran as they are surely ineffectual in Moscow. However, try as we may, the fact remains that the Russian rights and wrongs apart, the feelings of the Third World, including Iran, must include both fear and respect. Now, by far the most important prize is Iran because once it is won it is only a matter of time before the rest of the Gulf will follow.

First and foremost among the basic realities within Iran is the extremely bad economic situation. A diminishing oil revenue is being used to finance large scale unemployment or to pay for unproductive work that represents little more than occupational therapy.

After the economy comes the quality of leadership. The Iranian church simply does not have the capacity to govern. Another factor is that foreign skills will have to be imported on an increasing scale. Palestinians are already coming in with obvious policies for the future.

Further, if the Government cannot provide the economic goodies it will hardly sustain the mass of the people by dull theocracy and executing women for adultery. The most important single point about all this is that the longer it goes on the more communism will become synonymous with order and freedom.



Ayatollah Khomeini and Ayatollah Shariyat Madari: between them they control the church.

Next, it is relevant to consider the various power centres within Iran that could, in an appropriate combination, affect the issue.

First the church. This is divided between the Ayatollahs Khomeini and Shariyat Madari. As has been seen recently the latter has a considerable following, not only in the powerful

Azerbaijan province but also in the holy city of Meshed and among moderates throughout the country. He was the leader of the church within Iran during most of the absence of Ayatollah Khomeini (1963-1979), and has in the past been in favour of a constitutional monarchy.

Many think of him as senior to Ayatollah Khomeini and he is certainly less of a theocrat and more of a social democrat. He has ready allies among the minorities, not least the Kurds who sit right next to Azerbaijan. Secondly, the armed forces. The army is demoralized by the revolution and by what has happened to so many of its officers since. However, they and the other armed forces are also active outside Iran and here at least they are overtly pro-Pahlavi.

Thirdly, the paramilitaries. Here we have the revolutionary guards, the Pasdaran-Engelab, who at present provide backing

for the regime. However, as a group they would not last long if confronted by any organized force. Also to be included in this category are the mullahs of the Islamic revolutionaries and the more left-wing Fedayeen. These two groups have some 2,000 to 3,000 men each. Both of them could be used as a tool of further revolution and the Fedayeen have already been active in support of the Kurds.

Fourthly, the ethnic minorities. These include Azerbaijan, Kurdistan, Khuzestan (Arabs), Baluchistan and the Turkomans. All or any of these could join a winning coalition revolutionary combination. All are increasingly exploited and exploited.

Fifthly, the politicians. These are only important in so far as they have links with one or more of the above centres of power. Dr Hassan Habibi is now favourite with the backing of the Khomeini clergy and party. Mr Bani-Sadr has no known

power base and Admiral Mahdani who does have links with the armed forces will probably not win for that reason.

In addition to those in government the middle class movement of Matine-Dastari (National Democratic Front) would undoubtedly give intellectual support and leadership to any western-orientated change, whereas the Tudeh party and other communists are already active within all the mentioned areas.

In assessing our response to all this we have to realize two basic facts about Iran and its people. As a result of various conquests and their general history they are fatalistic and willing to accept more than most as well as blame everyone but themselves.

They also need some sort of figurehead or leader. It is no accident that Ayatollah Khomeini now receives the sort of reverence only 18 months ago reserved for the

Shah. Indeed the similarity of many of the words and phrases of adulation and flattery is comical.

There can now be no imperialistic solutions which are, in essence, reserved for Moscow. However, we can unite the many Iranians who sooner or later will try to liberate their country. The West gives them little help or encouragement when the very act of this would be to help the Shah to the banner. More than most they like to be on the winning side.

Related to this is the fact that the Shah has suffered enormous and unjustified vilification, even in the responsible press, and yet has said little in his defence. Other than Ayatollah Khomeini, he is the only acknowledged leader that Iranians have and he retains the loyalty of the armed forces outside the country and his officers command those forces within it. Above all he left his country rather than suppress it which he could well have done.

Able people, such as Dr Shahpour Bakhtiari, are available for more political roles but the good old Iranian figurehead will be needed somewhere. If it is not the Shah himself, perhaps in the name of his son, such a figure will have to appear.

In this situation, the West must act in its own interest and encourage its friends. Instead of gossiping through western eyes about the Shah's past, people should reflect on the recent rejection of Mrs Gandhi. Instead of romanticizing about Islam we should look at the political realities. We need only ensure that forces representing some hope of a modern and democratic future for Iran are ready when the moment arrives.

If we don't do this we, and the West, may find ourselves faced with the eventual necessity of seizing the Iranian and perhaps other oil fields. At the least this would bring the Russians into Azerbaijan and mean yet another partition of Iran. Iran does not deserve that.

Peter Temple-Morris

The author is Conservative MP for Leominster, secretary of the Conservative Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee, secretary of the British-Iranian Parliamentary Group, and a member of the Iran Society Council.

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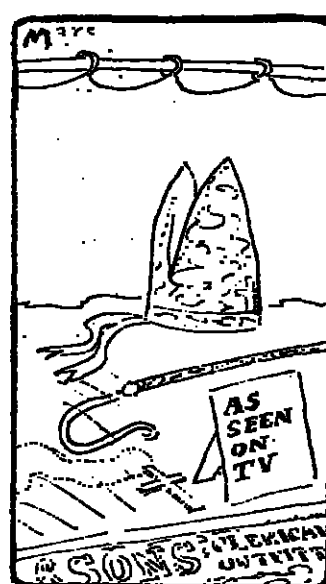
Also in this week's Times Higher Education Supplement:

- * Ivan Roots on History Journals.
- * Arthur Suddaby on why government spending cuts are a good thing.
- * John Durant on the Darwin industry.

THE TIMES
Higher Education
SUPPLEMENT

Every Friday.

GAZA DIARY



forged late last year in reaction to the clumsy Israeli efforts to deport Bassam Shakra, the Arab mayor of Nabulus.

The new cohesion between the Gazan and West Bank leaders has lessened the chances of the differences between the two chunks of Israeli occupied territory being exploited to provide autonomy. Such a suggestion has been floated a number of times since 1978, and is generally known by the shorthand description "Gaza first".

In its original form, the idea envisaged a different form of autonomy for the Gaza district and presumed local cooperation on a scale not predicted for the West Bank. Supporters of the plan ranged from President Sadat to Shimon Peres, leader of the Israeli opposition Labour alignment and it was widely regarded internationally as a possible way of maintaining the momentum of the peace process.

Egyptian President revived the "Gaza first" formula and dressed it up in a new way, suggesting this time that any generally agreed form of autonomy should initially be implemented first in Gaza before later being introduced on the West Bank. Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, duly agreed to present the Sadat suggestion to his Cabinet, without giving any sign whether he was for or against it.

Although less far-reaching than the original plan, the revised "Gaza first" idea is still

fiercely opposed by a number of senior Israeli ministers.

For Israeli ministers, the resurrection of the scheme has only served to reinforce a feeling of inferiority towards the numerically greater and economically more prosperous fellow Arabs from the West Bank, the section of occupied Arab territory that always seems to attract the lion's share of international attention and concern. "It is an insult to think that for some reason people here are willing to accept lesser guarantees for their rights than those living on the West Bank," declared a prominent local businessman.

I have personally informed senior Egyptian ministers that the idea is hopelessly naive. The autonomy plan is nothing more than a disguise for continuing military occupation of Palestinian land.

Pulled between the economic attractions of Israel (which now provides employment for some 35,000 Gazans) and the historical and cultural ties with Egypt, Gaza remains a desperately unsettled and discontented corner of the Middle East whose inhabitants believe with good reason that neither of the neighbouring powers has their best interests at heart. As a shopkeeper on Gaza's shabby main street explained: "One thing we all fear today is the idea of swopping Israeli for Egyptian occupation."

Christopher Walker

مكتبة الامم المتحدة



A bombardment of chips lies in wait for the pirates

Technological advances are having profound effects on both industry and consumers and could solve some problems, Pearce Wright, Science Editor, writes.

The panoply of equipment such as magnetic tape decks, recorders, video cameras, and electronic cameras, and boxes which form the world of audio-visual technology is undergoing a transformation. The reason is straightforward. It lies in the changes from the traditional technique of reproducing sound and images as an analogue pattern to the newer process of digital recording.

Although the microchip is playing an important part in this transition, there are other major advances such as the use of laser technology, improvements in the reliability of magnetic materials and the development of more satisfactory television tubes which have combined to create a new generation of systems.

The technical and economic implications for the in-

dustry and the consumer are profound. For the manufacturers there are immense problems, part technical and part economic, to be resolved after some years of severe difficulty. For instance, digital technology could provide the answer to piracy and counterfeiting in the music recording business.

That menace has played its part in pushing companies like Decca and EMI, and many others in America and Europe, into the financial mire. But many more fundamental troubles extending from a general economic recession to industrial overcapacity are the real villains. Thus the manufacturing companies are seeking an expansion of the market to make good the deficit caused by piracy.

Hence the enthusiasm over an innovation such as

digital processing equipment which will allow, for example, the recording of sonically faultless discs and open a new market of equipment for playing and recording. The same impact applies to the equipment that converts a normal television set into a more versatile unit whether it is for education and training, for home entertainment, or for use as part of a business system.

The introduction of the new systems for use with television has caused and will cause more rapidly than audio-recording on discs some technical reasons. The introduction of digital record players for the mass market depends on the acceptance of some technical standards about the way digital codes are going to be adopted. That is a question of the industry deciding how to share a responsibility between the manufacturers without incurring competitiveness.

Once the standards are accepted, the next issue becomes one of greater

importance to the consumer, for it embraces that sort of commodity for which the computer industry coined the phrase software.

In audio-visual equipment the software is the pre-recorded material whether it is an educational film, music or full length Hollywood production tailored for cassettes to be shown on a small screen. In the days when audio-visual meant apparatus for the lecture room of the college and management training centre, or for the presentation of a corporate image or technical product in a highly-polished marketing operation, a number of specialist organizations including publishers and film studios emerged to provide the software services. Some of the multinational corporations established their own studios and marketed some of the films they made initially for their own use.

The provision of similar services will perhaps be regarded by the consumer as the biggest challenge for the industry if it expects to create a great demand for

the new digital systems. Up to three years ago only professional users and a handful of enthusiasts knew much about the video recording methods which are used in equipment that is now in the retail radio and television shops. But for about 10 years a series of costly failures have happened among major companies in America, Japan and Europe in an attempt to reach the consumer market.

Sales of video recorders in Japan and the United States are ahead of those in Europe. Nevertheless the market in Britain is developing steadily. After intensive promotion campaigns in 1976, the sales for that year were more than 65,000 and estimates for last year suggest that more than another 100,000 were distributed.

The main use is for the playback of programmes on domestic television receivers, followed by a moderate amount of home movie-making and viewing of commercially available recordings. The application of video techniques for education and training is

far more extensive in scope would be widened again with the coming video discs.

The potential scale of the market can be gauged by examining the collaborative arrangements being made by some of the most powerful companies in the world in electronics, communications, computers and broadcasting. Yet a tough battle is already in progress between the makers of videocassette machines that play through the normal television set. But fiercer competition is expected in making the videodisc recorders the phenomenon of the 1980s.

The question is whether the technical characteristics and price of the videodisc machines will yield the sort of advantage that the present generation of cassettes attained over the devices, produced seven or eight years earlier, that failed. Many large firms are still licking wounds from that affair. With hindsight, it is clear that they paid the penalty of pioneers who tried to push a technology too far and too fast.

Europe took up the first videocassette system called EVR, invented by CBS, for development by ICI and Ciba-Geigy. It was based on film cassettes. A processing plant was built at Ilford at Basildon, and Rank Bush Murphy and other equipment manufacturers designed cassette players for the consumer market.

About the same time another development with a videodisc, called Teldec and devised by AEG-Telefunken, became a collaborative venture involving Decca and the consumer electronics subsidiary of the Axel Springer organization. The equipment was regarded as technically brilliant but lacking consumer appeal because the discs had a playing time of only 10 minutes. The amount commercially available for either system was also very limited.

With the knowledge from using the next generation of videocassettes and a limited experience with the newer videodiscs, it is not difficult to see the limitation of the

earlier projects. Even the quality of colour television screens has improved beyond recognition between the pioneering work and the present range of video systems.

A similar improvement may be necessary for the audio part of the television system if digital technology is going to be used to full effect. For the perfect sound recording method that is available with digital processing can only be reproduced if the other parts of the audio system are of the necessary quality.

The normal television set has a modest sound reproduction unit. The performance of the amplifiers and loudspeakers seems to satisfy most customers. But there are obvious limitations recognized by the cognoscenti; hence the use of two channels by the BBC occasionally in transmitting classical works on television and stereo radio simultaneously.

Cartoons by Nigel Paige.

Growth is in industry and commerce

Partly as a result of cuts in government spending on education, the industrial and commercial sectors account for more than 60 per cent of sales from up to 400 companies in Britain, Derek Harris, Commercial Editor, reports.

Nearly 250 companies with audio-visual interests are listed in the latest financial survey of the sector made by Inter Company Comparisons and some in the trade put the figure as high as 400. Except for a half dozen minnows, all the companies have turnovers of at least £100,000. Many of the larger ones have other interests besides the audio-visual market, but some that are concerned solely with audio-visual equipment have turnovers of £2m or more.

Five years ago it was educational needs which dominated the audio-visual market, accounting for possibly 65 per cent of sales in the United Kingdom while industry and commerce took the rest. But the effect of public expenditure cuts on educational spending together with a sharp growth in the industrial and commercial markets have almost reversed the situation.

In this changing market two sectors stand out as growth areas. One is the tailor-made individual presentation to cope with particular problems that arise in management-employee relations or to improve corporate communication, such as between top and middle management.

The other, probably the source of the greatest growth in sales value terms, is in point-of-sale marketing, with films ranging from a few thousand pounds to others that because of shooting on international locations may need budgets of about £100,000. The point-of-sale growth has been helped by businesses that want to protect what the company is as well as what its products are.

World Wide Pictures, which uses all kinds of audio-visual techniques from film to video systems and slide-and-tape presentations, has watched what its marketing director, Mr Christopher Hope, describes as an enormous growth in audio-visual aids to instruction in do-it-yourself in the United States.

of product on film has more impact than the typical live demonstration. However, this may be a large chain of DIV stores in Britain is now installing point-of-sale presentations in its stores, showing 10 different films which explain products and how to use them. Although the cost of this type of film is fairly low, the costs range on films is far wider than with videotape productions. At World Wide Pictures, video programmes do not often cost more than £12,000.

A recent film made by the company for a multinational telecommunications company cost £30,000 and involved filming in five countries. It will be used internationally to show what the company has to offer to potential buyers of telecommunications systems. A film for Atlas Copco the Swedish compressed air products company which has a British subsidiary, is being shot in India, Mexico, the United States, Sweden and Britain. But there are films being made at the other end of the scale such as a £4,000 package for a small car wash company or one costing £8,000 about diamonds.

The experience of World Wide Pictures, using all the audio-visual techniques, shows that film is still holding its own despite the incursion of video. Ten years ago 80 per cent of the company's turnover was accounted for by work on film and this still stands at 50 per cent with video accounting for 30 per cent, and 20 per cent accounted for by slide-and-tape.

Mr Hope describes slide-and-tape as an uncomfortable medium to distribute because of the complex and heavy equipment involved. Sometimes transferring such presentations to film is an answer to the distribution problem. There are also some networks abroad providing hardware.

says. Film projectors such as 8mm desk models are still useful for the individual salesman on his travels.

Mr Hope's forecast is that video will grow but he does not see film going much below 40 per cent of the market. "It is still the most flexible medium for location work and to edit," he said.

The demand for presentations dealing with industrial and corporate relations has grown so much that 18 months ago World Wide Pictures took on a sociologist, Mr John Hemmingsway, to help to develop this side of the business. Mr Hemmingsway reckons that growth since then has probably quadrupled.

But the company has, for instance, for nearly four years been making three-monthly performance reviews for what was Chrysler UK and is now the Talbot car company. Films are shot on location, with interviews with workers and managers. At the time when British Leyland was having its ballot on the reorganization plan for the company, World Wide Pictures made within 24 hours a presentation for the heavy vehicles division that included a deliberately frank and careful interview of the division's chief executive.

"These things cannot be merely propaganda material," Mr Hemmingsway said. Such tailor-made films can cost as little as £5,000 or so but have not exceeded £20,000 so far. They are of particular value to companies which want to put issues to a workforce that may be spread around many units either throughout the United Kingdom or world-wide. A quarterly newsletter produced for BP includes contributions from places as far apart as New Zealand, Alaska and the North Sea and some 150 copies are sent round the world at BP locations.

Films exploring particular management-employee relations do not solve any problems in themselves, Mr Hemmingsway says, but they do identify the areas for discussion more clearly, can fill information gaps and can give all sides a better appreciation of how each stands and why.

At Rank Audio Visual, Mr Ron Sharp, general manager for film services and photographic, finds that despite the financial cuts in education, hardware such as film projectors are still selling.

Sticks and stones have their place too

In assessing the impact of audio-visual methods around the world in the past decade, one would probably point to the bigger, better published projects: the satellite instructional television project in India, educational television in the Ivory Coast and El Salvador, Sesame Street, the Tanzanian radio campaigns, the Open University, the Nicaraguan radio mathematics project.

There are few Third World countries which have not made use of audio-visual media; but the prolific data available about some of the important projects is not matched by data on, say, frequency of use of overhead projectors or language laboratories in Third World universities or institutes of higher education, the availability of tape recorders in classrooms, or teacher access to basic reprographic equipment in schools.

One is therefore forced to generalize on the basis of experience and observation. Those who have worked overseas in Third World countries for much of their careers would probably agree that the situation is similar in all of them: scarcity, especially outside the capital cities, of few resources and limited equipment. Felt-tip pens and supplies of card remain a luxury; reprographic equipment is scarce and difficult to maintain; film projectors may be seen only once in six months when a mobile van arrives at the village in a cloud of dust.

Teachers need to be trained to make imaginative use of what can be found in the environment: sticks and stones and traditional artefacts as well as the waste materials of the consumer society, bottle caps and tin cans. Teacher-training, whether preservice or in the form of in-service seminars, preferably supported by the development of local teachers' resource centres, is arguably more important than the establishment of factories to produce elaborate equipment and models for classroom demonstration.

Curriculum developers in the teaching of science and English language have long recognized the need to encourage teachers to make use of the local environment, but their influence has been limited. One feels that in the past two decades it would have been better to harness the newer audio-visual media to teacher-training than to dissipate so

much money and energy in premature and largely unmanageable large-scale educational television projects.

If one could start again in January, 1960, one would hope that planners and educationalists would have the addition of specially produced audio-visual recordings for training and the dissemination of library information is expected to be a natural progression.

A pointer to the future is the scheme to be launched by IPC of its MirrorVision project of videotograms, which will give the best known of writers a new medium to work in. This is a service being developed for existing cassettes, but its

argument between advocates of high technology audio-visual media (for example film and television) and advocates of low-technology audio-visual media (everything from posters and tape-slide to puppets and sprogoscopes) but the argument has always seemed fruitless and misleading.

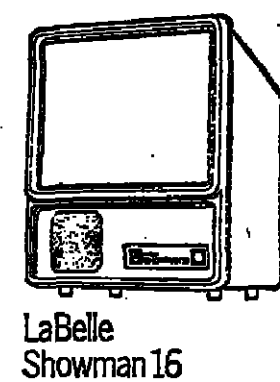
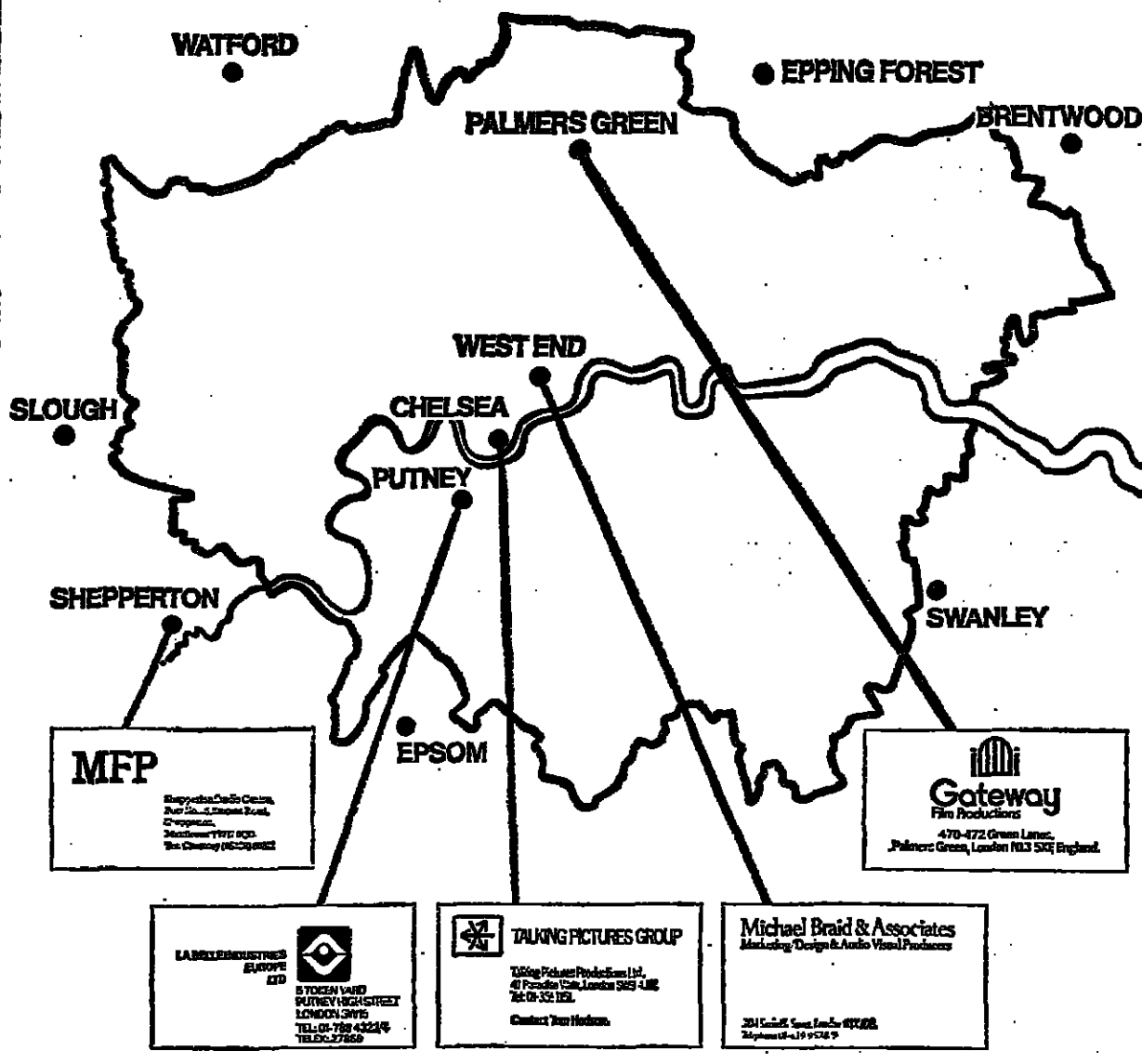
Certainly a 16mm film is effective and economical if it persuades and teaches enough trainee-teachers to adopt a new curricular approach, or if it helps enough sceptical farmers to understand why and how fertilizer could help them; but it may not make economic sense to equip each school or farmer's training centre with a projector, especially if there are only half a dozen locally-relevant films in existence.

Synchronized tape/slide presentations or sound filmstrips may be the ideal medium for training tractor maintenance technicians or credit disbursement officers in a large agricultural development project but they may be a failure if used as a cut-price substitute for motion pictures to reach the farmers. Posters are an effective communication tool in some areas of the Third World, but they may be incomprehensible and indecipherable in other areas and may also turn out to be very expensive if distribution costs are taken into account.

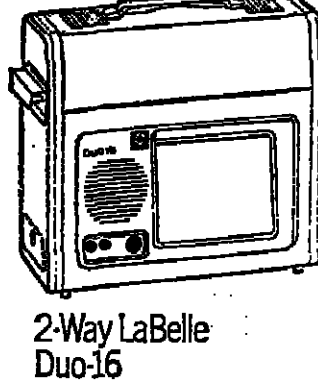
Fortunately there is now a much more widespread understanding of both the appropriateness and the specific characteristics of different audio-visual techniques, and a far greater degree of commitment to action research and formative evaluation of the materials produced. Many more producers and

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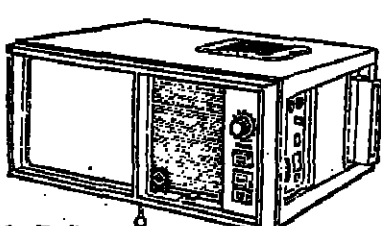
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THE THIRD WORLD

Sticks and stones have their place too

continued from previous page
researchers in the Third World have taken account of the communication gap which separates them, as educated city-dwellers, from the people they are trying to communicate with.

In some cases village women have participated fully in the production of cassette tapes and tape slide shows intended for them. Researchers have become more familiar with the problems of production; producers are more conversant with the research concerning visual perception and comprehension.

A journal such as *Educational Broadcasting International* reflects the changes that have taken place and the wide range of audio-visual knowledge required of international educational communications advisers and trainers, such as those on the staff of the British Council's media department in London. Apart from the frequent overseas consultancy and training activities carried out by the department, often in association with experts from other British organizations, many of the staff are involved with the programme of training courses devoted to educational radio and television and to audio-visual media production.

"Audio-visual media" is a phrase generally understood to refer to non-broadcast media, and the British Council course includes graphics, reprographics, photography (shooting, processing and printing), overhead projector techniques and transparency-making, colour transparency production for slide-tape programmes, and audio-recording, editing, mixing and synchronization. Communication theory, problems of audio and visual perception and techniques of evaluation are an integral part of the training programme.

Since most of the students come from Third World countries, it is vital that the council's staff have had first-hand experience of working in the media in such countries.

Aid policy, so far as it is formulated with reference to audio-visual media, tends to encourage local production. Assistance in the form of training, advisory services and development of production facilities, has been provided at a modest level throughout the past two decades, and Third World countries are making an increasing use of audio-visual media in every sector. But local production capacity seldom equals demand for materials, especially when audio-visual centres or media services are called upon to make materials for a number of different ministries.

There will be a continuing demand for software produced in Britain and elsewhere, or by British companies which can produce it abroad. There are a large number of companies already established, with comprehensive catalogues of films, filmstrips and other materials, but relatively few of them produce equipment with the Third World in mind. Information on audio-visual materials can be supplied by such organizations as the National Audio-Visual Aids Centre, the Scottish Council for Educational Technology, the British Universities Film Council and the British Educational Equipment Association.

Readers abroad are advised to address their enquiries to the representative of the British Council in the country concerned.

James Potts
Editor,
Educational Broadcasting International

Presentations demonstrate products' advantages to customers

Sales and marketing

Crisis-ridden as they were, the 1970s were particularly memorable for anyone involved in the business of selling audio-visual hardware, making programmes and using the techniques to improve communications.

Visual aids, as they had been known, had long been the tools of education and to a limited extent, training. The documentary, or sponsored film, has been an important public relations tool since the hey-day of Grierson.

But during the 1970s the scene changed. Visual aids became audio-visual—the automatic or semi-automatic presentation of images (on film or magnetic tape) in conjunction with a pre-recorded synchronized sound track.

Development has been fast, with audio-visual companies showing increases in turnover of 30 per cent or more for almost every year since 1975. More and more managers, whatever their particular areas of responsibility, are familiar with audio-visual techniques even if they are not users themselves—yet.

Much of the impetus behind this growth and increased sophistication has come from sales and marketing. Giant car companies, competing to launch models which look more and more alike, started to produce spectaculars with thousands of slides and complex sound tracks. In an increasingly competitive world, training films and videotapes emerged to motivate salesmen and make sure that their skills were honed to a fine fighting edge. Commercial and audio-visual presentations have invaded everywhere from Virgin

Records to exclusive Bond Street boutiques and home improvement centres.

But it is not only technology and application skills that have benefited from the sales and marketing managers' desire to embrace audio-visual techniques. By using them on measurable short-term projects the marketing teams have been able to demonstrate, albeit in an empirical way, the effectiveness of various techniques.

In sales, audio-visual equipment is able to produce a near-perfect presentation can be seen to reduce the salesman to a mere collector of orders; more truthfully, it allows him to concentrate on countering objections and making sure that he gets the order.

In face-to-face selling, particularly of services or large projects, briefcase style portable units have proved both effective and popular. Their particular areas of responsibility, which it was often difficult, if not impossible, to demonstrate the real product to every potential client. Tanks and large earthmoving equipment, boats and complex machinery are among the obvious subjects. But companies and salesmen soon found that slides or a film could demonstrate a product interestingly and effectively, convey complex arguments and really help to sell all kinds of services.

Complex arguments and sales lines often need more complex programmes to communicate them than the portable projection system can provide, and this is where the multivision presentation allied to a sales conference product launch in front of an in-

vised audience really scores.

Programme and staging costs are high, but normally represent only a small percentage of the promotional budget. By staging conferences, usually at plush hotels with all the side-shows of entertainments, drinks, food and accommodation thrown in, companies can get their important customers to come to them, expose them to a visually exciting and psychologically planned demonstration of the product and explanation of its advantages, and at the same time cosset the customer within the environment of an event and the natural esprit of entertainment.

The same techniques can be, and have been, used to good effect at sales conferences for the staff. As an example, Hambro Life took the main hall at the Wembley Conference Centre so that the American company Carabine could run a conference. Morale was boosted so highly that the six figures spent disappeared in comparison to the boom in revenue.

But all costs are proportional. Addressograph-Multigraph spent about £50,000 on a five-stop tour of Britain launching a new range of offset printing machines. Its return came in the form of nearly 100 orders before any other promotional activity had been carried out. At the other end of the scale, Edwards of Enfield won awards with a five-minute, £2,500 film called *An Extrusion Puller Powered by a Linear Motor*. As well as winning awards the film sold machines which have been almost impossible to explain any other way.

As well as helping sales directly, audio-visual aids can be great image-builders helping a company, product or brand-name to maintain a marketing position.

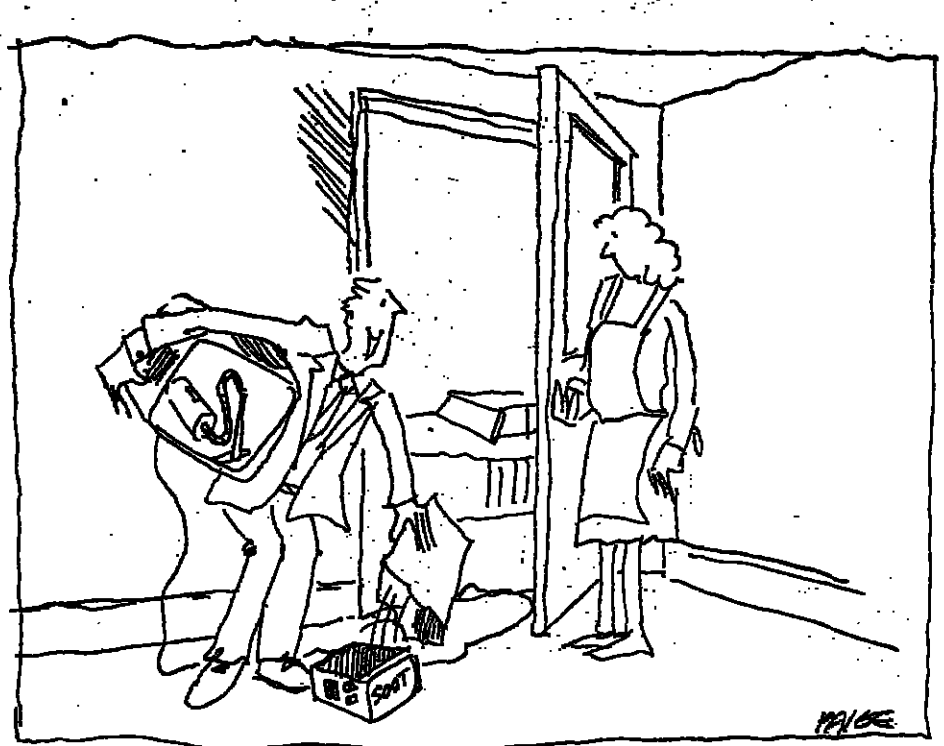
There are many expressions of this sort of activity, extending from a kind of sponsorship, whereby companies provide audio-visual programmes as exhibits at sites such as the Beaulieu Motor Museum, to participation in exhibitions (the silver jubilee exhibition in Hyde Park featured more than a dozen multivision shows) and the making of programmes, predominantly films and videotapes, for distribution to consumer markets. The oil companies, for example, have long made films for free distribution to film clubs, motor clubs and the like.

Sponsored film as a soft sell has been with us for a long time. The medium might change eventually to video but activity in programme distribution is likely to increase not diminish. Just think of the potential a fourth television channel offers.

Selling products, establishing the image and training the salesman: audio-visual aids offer a lot as far as teaching the salesman his craft, keeping him informed about products and motivating him are concerned.

Many of the classic examples involve video, although one or two companies operate systems based on slide/tape units.

Ford, as an example, uses a video network to brief its sales staff on new products, changes of targets, and changes in emphasis which the company wants to make.



Spafax, a car parts distribution organization, has its own television unit which provides a weekly briefing for the sales representatives who come in, one a week, to stock their vans.

The Spafax briefing technique approaches another use of audio-visual aids which seems, after a long gestation period, to be taking off in Britain—films in shops. Films, slide shows and videotapes have for a long time been used in drawing a crowd so that the salesforce could move in. These days films are being used to sell the product.

Three chains of home improvement shops are involved in programmes which explain to the customer how to put up partitions and use certain tools—information which the salesforce is either ill-equipped or too busy to provide. The benefits are obvious: the customer can be given confidence to use a product he or she might otherwise view with some anxiety and the sale is made in a leisurely way.

Signs are that this will spread far beyond the do-it-yourself shops owned by Leeboff, Marley and Dodge.

City Sports programmes are becoming important in America and short films of pop groups have already begun to sell records in London shops.

Britain is contributing some new applications of its own. During the next few years sales and marketing management will ignore the potential uses of audio-visual aids at their peril; the competition will almost certainly be using them.

Peter Lloyd
Editor,
Audio Visual

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Industrial training Instructive films increasingly popular

An important trend in the audio-visual industry over the past decade has been the growing use of film, filmstrip, slide-tape and video for industrial, professional and commercial training. From a time when there were precious few training films, and nobody was prepared, speculatively, to produce any, we have moved to a time when there is almost an embarrassment of riches of training programmes for sale or hire from a proliferating number of sources in Britain, and a thriving export business as well.

Figures are hard to come by, but Rank Audio Visual, which began the movement with a pioneering sales training film called *Two Way Communication* says the demand for training films alone has doubled over the past five years and is worth about £4m a year.

Video Arts, the production and distribution company set up by John Cleeve and Tony Jay in 1972, serves about 12,000 companies with training films, the most successful being *Meetings*, *Bloody Meetings*. Made to train people to run successful and productive meetings, this has grossed more than £328,000 in sales and hire income in Britain alone since its release in mid-1976. In terms of popularity, it is followed closely by *Manhunt*, on the selection of executives, and *The Balance Sheet Barrier*, giving guidance on reading a balance sheet.

A glance at some recent releases indicates the subjects being tackled in film and other audio-visual media.

Millbank Films, an ICI subsidiary, has produced *One in Five*, dealing with the risks and prevention of coronary illness. The film comes from the statistic that one in five people will have a heart attack before retirement.

The Office Supervisor and Common Sense Motivation have just appeared in the Guild Sound & Vision Library, and Rank Audio Visual has released *Discord*,

for industrial relations training, and *The Pursuit of Efficiency*. In the latter, the actress Penelope Keith plays an upper crust woman working as temporary tea lady in an office. By asking questions as she serves the Lapsang Souchong, she prompts staff at all levels to begin to question the sacred dogma of established and often inefficient practice.

Many specialist organizations have begun to sponsor audio-visual training material. These include several of the industrial training boards, such as the Construction, Road Transport, and Distribution Training Boards. The Distributive Trades Training Board (DTTB), for example, has just produced four new videocassettes: *Identikit*, on how to fill job vacancies with the right people; *The Welcome Mat*, on induction training; *The Inside Job*, showing how to run training sessions for retail sales staff; and *Pass It On*, dealing with the acquisition and presentation of knowledge about products.

The DTTB is probably the most advanced of all the industrial training boards in audio-visual aids and has its own 1,500 sq ft studio at Knutsford in Cheshire. This studio produces about 40 programmes a year for the board itself and a further 20 or more for clients, an output which it plans to increase as it moves into its fourth year. Its clients include Radio Rentals and also House of Fraser, which uses video players for training in each of its 120 shops.

The Health and Safety Executive has become a prolific sponsor of safety training films, each tending to deal with a specific kind of industrial hazard, the latest being, *A Hell of a Way to Die*, about the causes of transport accidents on the docks. Other important sources of films are Training Films International and the Government's Central Film Library.

The figure of £4m for the annual sales and hire of such films, has been well overtaken by what companies are spending on producing their own pro-

grammes to meet their individual and increasingly specific training and communication needs.

British Rail, for example, uses a 35-minute film for training railway carriage cleaners, and a video production was made to introduce the new Faircliff Railcard scheme to Travel Centre and booking office staff.

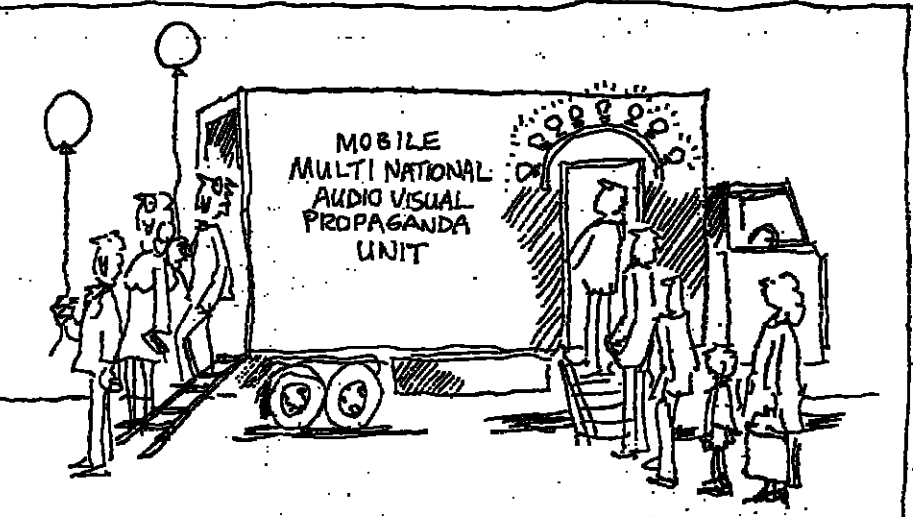
These programmes, and several slide-tape productions, are usually shown by BR on super 8mm film on portable Faircliff desktop projectors. BR also has a video, or television communication network, based on the Sony U-Matic format.

Video programmes are being used by the National Bus Company for training its drivers, inspectors and booking and inquiry staff in serving customers. For some time both Chrysler (or Talbot as it now is) and BP have been producing regular information programmes for employees.

Leysa, a video programme commissioned by the Edwards recovery plan before the ballot on the future of B.I. The programme was planned and completed in 24 hours, and 48 hours after the vote. It was shown to all 25,000 of Leyland Vehicles' employees in the company's 14 plants. Screenings, in company time, went on around the clock and were followed by discussions between workers and local management teams. The programme did not push the Edwards plan, but urged people to think carefully about the issues, and to be sure to use their votes on the day.

The success of the programme, Dr John Hemming, who is manager of the Employee Communications and Training Projects Division at World Wide Pictures, said that it showed the immediacy with which the audio-visual medium can be used to tackle employee communications, requirements, and its unique value in establishing a context and framework for informed and reasonable debate on important issues affecting workers and management.

Clive Jones



In many people's minds the images conjured up by the words "lecture" and "conference" must still be the traditional ones of gowned students sitting in a price-less piece of our architectural heritage watching someone read a speech they cannot hear. It is reminiscent of interpreters, diplomats and disgruntled heads of state not issuing communiqués; of audiences paying large sums of money to hear "experts" appointed by the organizers deliver lengthy, tendentious and questionable statements.

In too many cases those images still hold true; it could be argued that making group communication more interesting by the use of pictures as well as sound is an antiquated, not technological, problem—after all, slide projectors, film and even television considerably predate the era of the "chip".

Lectures, primarily concerned with educating an audience to some extent, have always been heavily reliant on the personality and delivery of the lecturer; traditional aids (apart from the text) include the blackboard, the pointer and the flipchart.

Change has come to the lecture halls of universities and the learned societies as the subjects they cover have become more specialized. The great benefits of visual (and particularly audio-visual) media are that they can frequently make points comprehensible which either cannot be explained at all or not so easily by speech alone. They aid retention of points by employing more than one sense in their perception, and they help to engage audience attention.

Many of the schools and colleges in Britain, especially those associated with the sciences, have been equipped with lecture theatres designed with great care so that almost any medium the lecturer wishes to use can be smoothly incorporated into the body of the talk.

The position of the learned societies also reflects this trend towards catering for technology (the Society of Chemical Industry's theatre in Belgrave Square is a good example). But in the last resort the use of the audio-visual techniques available is the decision of the lecturer. If, rightly or wrongly, he or she decides to rely on personal magnetism rather than use slides that is the end of the matter.

If lectures are about education—an area traditionally apathetic towards visual aids and new teaching methods—conferences would seem to fall into two categories: information and persuasion. Negotiation must be regarded as something else: there probably were not too many audio-visual aids used in Lancaster House during mid and late 1979.

Conferences concerned with persuasion, whether that be between members of the same company or between companies, are a part of sales and marketing. They have

helped to form an expectation of slick presentations and audio-visual spectacles which is being carried over into other activities.

Broadly speaking, the idea of thoroughly scripted and stage-managed conference presentations—usually accompanied by multivision shows, lasers and/or dancing girls—has come to Europe from the United States, undergoing necessary cultural mutations on the way.

Programmes at this kind of conference—anything from the launch of a new brand of cosmetics to a sales department party with a day's work tagged on—are complex and lavish and can be very expensive indeed, often with quite adequate justification.

But only the best information conferences are fit to be compared with commercial-run conferences and seminars. Lecturing still dominates. Speakers often turn up with just a few notes or speak extempore.

The truth is that use of audio-visual techniques demands much planning and forethought by all those concerned—the organizers, programme chairmen and their invited speakers.

There seems to be a body of people who think that if they can get a conference going by showing films, television programmes or slide-tape shows they are not giving the audience value for money. And when they do use visual aids they do so in a half-hearted way.

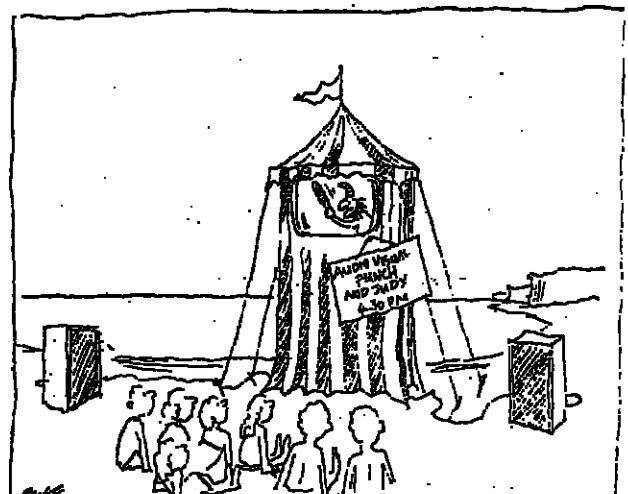
Take a recent conference at the Café Royal on Video Rights, the copyright and legal problems facing a more or less new industry which is growing up around the use of video in television, film and feature films. The only time a television set was used was when one speaker tried to illustrate the problems of picture duplication.

There are inevitable difficulties which make the use of audio-visual aids at conferences far from simple. But, in an age when everyone is being confronted with more and more information, audience expectations are rising fast; they want to be presented with the most readily-understandable and professionally-presented information available.

If you are a potential conference speaker or have someone in your company who is being asked to speak at a conference, the benefits of using audio-visual techniques are immense and far-reaching enough to justify the inconvenience of doing a little pre-planning. There are several reasonable options open to the conference speaker which should make his or her presentation more effective and more memorable.

First, there are speaker support slides. You can control them yourself or work with a projectionist who has a marked copy of your script. Pre-planning is essential but a lot can be gained by putting up graphics to explain or reinforce points and by using pictures.

Second, you may use pre-existing programme material. It may well be that you can use a film or videotape that



another company department has had made. But do not fall into the trap of using it all; it will certainly have been produced with a different audience in mind and if you show all the bits about corporate history rather than the unique new design you are supposed to be talking about you will probably alienate your audience.

Third, you might have something special made. This is an expensive step, but often justifiable. Conference organizers should certainly try to produce a kind of overture, setting the theme; and if the role of individual speakers is crucial enough, then there are many occasions when five minutes of film or 10 minutes of slide-tape programme (about £3,000 each) would be money well spent.

In a world of high-speed communications technology and tremendous competition for the attention of audiences, much of the effort at lectures, seminars and conferences will seem wasteful and ineffectual. Audio-visual aids can provide instant professional help, and their growth is assured.

P.L.

Growth is in industry and commerce

no means clear". But he believes there has definitely been a growth in the market for training films in the past six or seven years.

Purchase Point, which specializes in organizing conferences and exhibitions and finds that about 70 per cent of customers demand an audio-visual content, says that the quality of presentation can be made much better than with film alone by using a combination including slides. The Ford Motor Company is an enthusiastic user, a 50ft-wide screen being used specially made for presentations to audiences of about 6,000 such as dealers viewing new car designs.

Exciting presentations can certainly be made. Purchase Point has used live orchestras as backing for slide presentations and, on occasion, lasers. That is one of the lessons of successful audio-visual business: it has to have more than a touch of show business.

such developments as the use of large screens and multiple screen presentations.

Mr Sharp said: "We have had increases, although whether that is because our films are better than our competitors' or whether the training films market is expanding is by

ing to schools although a switch to video equipment is possibly being delayed. But the company's film sales have been affected, with a drop in volume in the past three years of about 25 per cent.

Rank Audio Visual has successfully turned more to foreign markets to make up for this loss, the Middle East countries turning out to be the best market so far. Despite the growth of the tailor-made individual company films in the industrial sector, Rank as a producer of training films for industry has not seen a reduction in sales.

مكتبة التجهيز

Hard work, long hours, poor conditions. It's enough to give a home video system a breakdown.

We don't mean to knock home video systems.

After all, we make one ourselves.

It's called Sony Betamax, and it will keep you and your family entertained for years.

But, like other home video systems, it wasn't designed for the heavy wear and tear of commerce and industry.

Sony U-matic, on the other hand, was designed for that and that alone.

It costs, it's true, about twice as much.

But that is the least of the differences between video designed for work and video designed for play.

Sony U-matic can stand it.

Sony U-matic has been around longer than any other video system.

And its great strengths are its simplicity, reliability and durability.

Those are not, however, the only reasons why more companies have bought it than any other video system.

Sony U-matic uses $\frac{3}{4}$ " tape.

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It's so good, in fact, that TV stations all over the world use it.

Works around the world.

Sony U-matic is compatible with the three colour TV systems which are used around the world.

So you can play tapes recorded in America or France, and they can play tapes which you have recorded in Britain.

And you can dub on extra sound or foreign languages.

Since these are features which you're unlikely to need around the home, you won't find them on most home video systems.

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Which could save you a good deal of embarrassment in front of the Company Chairman.

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For, at Sony, we don't believe in mixing work with play.

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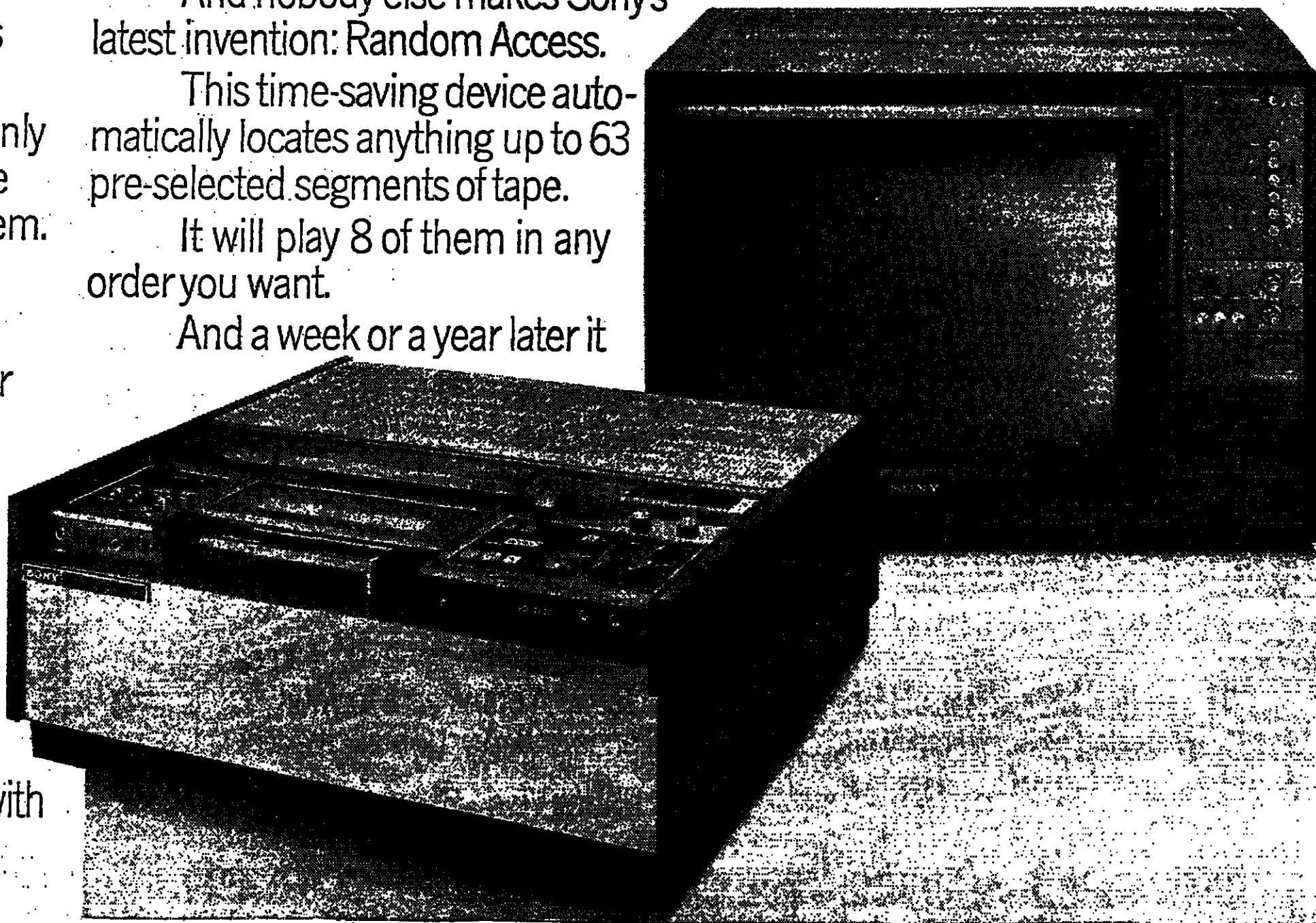
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T/25/1/A

SONY



Schools

Recorder and projector flourish in the blackboard jungle

The blackboard is by no means obsolete, and the only real threat to the continued existence of books in the classroom is the one offered by cuts in educational spending. However, the past 10 years have seen an extraordinary upsurge in the use of audio-visual equipment and materials in both secondary and primary schools. Most schools now make extensive use of the video-recorder and in London schools it is not uncommon for more than half the teaching rooms to be equipped with an overhead projector.

Commercial production of audio-visual teaching materials has flourished. The National Audio-Visual Aids Library, run by the National Committee for Audio-Visual Aids in Education, holds one of the largest collections of educational films in Britain—more than 3,000 titles—which it hires out to schools and colleges at charges lower than those made by commercial libraries. It also holds for sale more than 4,000 film-strips and a large number of 8mm loop films, overhead projection transparencies, slide-tapes and multi-media kits.

The committee also publishes catalogues of materials produced and its reviews many of them as they come on to the market. Its national and regional centres carry out the maintenance and repair of equipment, provide advice and sell a variety of equipment to schools at discount prices. The NCAVE faces an uncertain future with the recent announcement that its budget—from the rate support grant—is to be heavily cut.

According to the NCAVE, the sciences—biology in particular—lead the field, with geography and history following. An increasing quantity of materials produced for environmental and social studies overlaps with these and other subjects where an interdisciplinary approach is being adopted. The NCAVE reports a marked expansion in tape-slide kits in recent years and says that the BBC has had a significant effect on film-strip materials. The BBC's Radiovision kits, consisting of a transcript of the radio broadcast to be recorded, with a film-strip and teachers' notes to accompany it, have become popular at both primary and secondary level.

More generally there is

some decline in the use of film-strips, in favour of 35mm slide sets which can give the teacher more scope for editing. There has also been a reduction in the production of 16mm films, because of the widespread use of video-recording from television.

Teachers' centres and schools also produce their own materials, and while these may lack the gloss of the commercial productions they have the advantage of being designed with more specific teaching contexts and needs in mind. The Inner London Education Authority's Learning Materials Service, initially producing short runs for ILEA's 200 secondary schools and 896 primary schools, however, has acquired such a reputation for its consistently high standards that some of its materials are being marketed nationally and internationally. With more expensive productions, there is a move towards joint publication with commercial publishers.

Reflecting ILEA policy, Learning Materials Service materials have mixed-ability teaching in mind. LMS estimates that only about 20 per cent of commercially produced materials incor-

porate this concern. Attention is also given in LMS publications to the multi-ethnic character of the urban school, and to special work with deaf and blind children.

While elaborate materials cannot replace the teacher, they can help to mitigate the teacher shortage—in those subjects where it exists. ILEA's A-level physics project, using slides and overhead projector material with workbooks, alleviates the problems of teaching a large group where a small one would be the ideal. Modern language teaching is an area where sound recording has an obvious value.

As the biggest and wealthiest authority in Britain, ILEA was able to initiate the training of media resources officers in 1966, at a time when there was the money and the scope for experimentation. Clwyd is the only other authority to run a similar scheme on the same scale; the innovation failed to spread, partly because by the time other authorities might have been willing to follow ILEA's example the economic atmosphere had changed.

Training was for the City and Guilds qualification as audio-visual assistant,

until 1971, when ILEA's own Certificate in Media Resources was instituted, with a 12-week full-time course followed by one year of day-release. There are now 220 qualified media resources officers employed by ILEA, and every secondary school has such an officer. Many of them are trained teachers and their role is much more than that of the servicing technician. As well as developing materials in collaboration with teachers they are expected to train and advise teachers in the use of equipment and materials.

The notion of educational technology, with its emphasis on systems learning and its vision of a wholesale technological transformation of education, is one for which there is little enthusiasm among those teachers and educationists who emphasize the necessity of coming to grips with existing educational issues in any use of the media. The growth of O-level and CSE courses in media studies is evidence of this concern. A typical media studies syllabus aims to develop technical competence in different media together with an understanding of the organization and the cultural effects of the mass media, to create a shift

from passive consumption to active critical awareness.

A Schools Council project on the use of the audio-visual media, involving schools in the North-east, also comes from a recognition of the benefits of practical experience and the acquisition of skills.

Teacher training now formally acknowledges the importance of media studies. London University Institute of Education this year initiated a post-graduate Certificate in Education in English and Media Studies—the first course of its kind in the country. And from the 28 options available on the general post-graduate Certificate in Education, about a fifth of the trainee teachers choose either audio-visuals, film or media studies.

Technology will undoubtedly enter the classroom to an increasingly greater degree. The Department of Education and Science has published proposals on microelectronics in education, and computers are already finding their way on to the curriculum. The effects of these developments on education will certainly be the subject of debate for a long time to come.

Liz Heron

Higher education

Burgeoning industry at universities

The use of audio-visual teaching aids such as slides and overhead projector transparencies is already established in many areas of higher education where technicians working within university and polytechnic departments can often provide on-the-spot assistance with materials.

These techniques are increasingly supplemented by more advanced centrally produced materials. Most universities and polytechnics now have their own media service unit or audio-visual centre, and the production of audio-visual materials within higher education institutions is a burgeoning industry.

London University Audio-Visual Centre is the leading producer of materials, which include television, 16mm film, sound recordings and tape-slides, as well as booklets and charts to accompany them. The centre opened in 1968, then staffed only by Mr Michael Clarke, the director, and his secretary. It now has a staff of 20, with television engineers and higher education staff, programme producers, graphic artists and designers.

Work on a specific project or teaching aid originates from an approach by academic staff. A producer is assigned to the project and works in collaboration with the academic. Staff at the centre are available to give general advice and they also organize occasional training courses and workshops on aspects of the use, care and maintenance of equipment and materials.

In the course of a year they produce several dozen teaching programmes, distributed by students at St Thomas' Hospital Medical School. The cassettes, which consist of a series of lectures, are accompanied by diagrams and photographs illustrating the material.

Individual study—or self-access, as it is sometimes called—is becoming a widely used tool. Most university and polytechnic libraries operate loan systems for audio-cassettes and video tapes, and an increasing number of subjects. The aim of individual study is to free for discussion what

would otherwise be lecture time. It also means that lectures can be recalled in their entirety without a reliance on note-taking.

As well as reproducing a course of lectures for sustained study, sound tape is frequently used to record visiting lecturers. Sound is perhaps used most extensively on literature and drama courses, giving the written word the added dimension of performance and bringing out its dramatic qualities. A recorded performance by the Comédie Française or the reading of a Greek tragedy can illuminate study.

There is also a considerable body of literary criticism on tape, often in the form of interviews and discussions, making a breadth of approaches more accessible to the student. Sound tapes are used for the analysis of spontaneous dialogue in sociological studies and in the training of doctors, social workers and interviewers.

Art history obviously depends on visual material, and there has been a move towards the use of film and video as well as slides. Similarly, a growing number of films and video tapes are produced for the study of music.

Lanchester Polytechnic is one of the principal producers of slide-tapes. Because of the difficulties of pacing and synchronization in what is a deceptively simple medium there is a trend towards aiming at the slide at individual study.

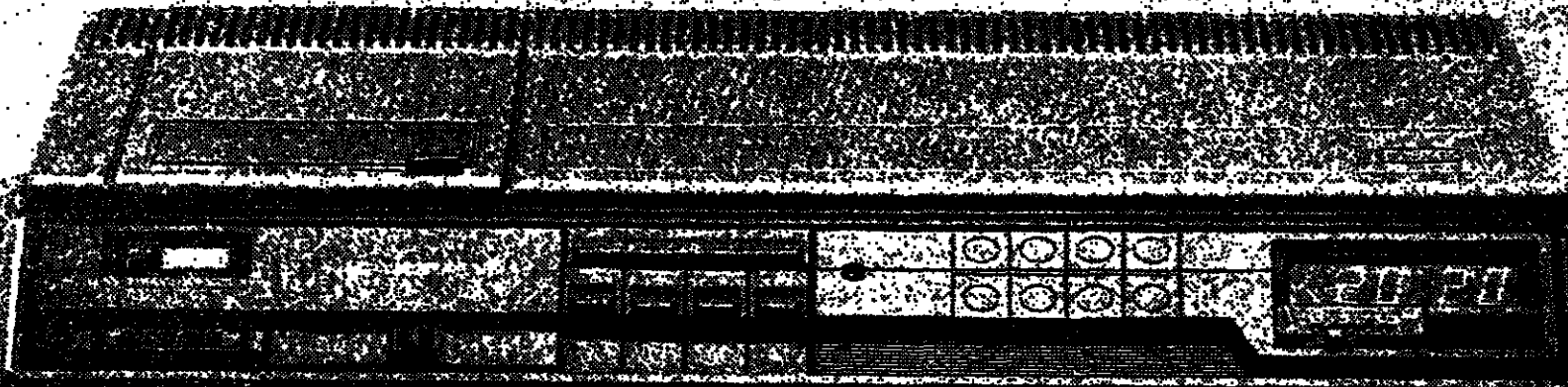
The British Universities Film Council is the central information body for audio-visual materials in higher education. In addition to its catalogues and other publications it provides an information service which includes a file of appraisals on materials available in the United Kingdom. Its audio-visual reference centre offers producers of materials and its film library provides an outlet for specialist materials not normally distributed in Britain. Among its activities is the organization of conferences on the use of materials in particular subjects.

L.H.



PHILIPS

THE AUDIO-VISUAL AID THAT ISN'T A FINANCIAL BURDEN



PHILIPS

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Video cassette recorders have obvious advantages as audio-visual aids. But now you don't need a huge budget to afford one. The Philips N1702 has a 3 hour tape capacity, unrivalled picture quality and can be pre-programmed up to ten days in advance.

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THE PHILIPS N1702 VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDER.

Museums

Bringing exhibitions to life

The rapid development of audio-visual equipment during the 1970s has revitalised museums and public galleries, many of which had previously presented visitors with an atmosphere akin to that in a mausoleum.

The use of video and multi-image equipment often appears prohibitive financially to all but the biggest museums, such as the Science or Geological Museums, and galleries such as the Independent Broadcasting Authority's. However, audio-visual enhancement of certain exhibits is an investment paying for itself with the increased number of visitors.

An important catalyst in creating this change in attitude has been BMT's London Experience. This presents the history of London in 57 minutes using multi-image techniques, with various side attractions including the Kings and Queens costume exhibition.

London Experience has shown that an audio-visual show can be a box-office success: 1,500,000 people have paid to see it in 32 months. Two thirds of these were tourists and a big proportion of the rest were schoolchildren.

Its predecessor, New York Experience, attracted two million visitors in its seven-year existence, and similar ventures are planned for Singapore and Amsterdam.

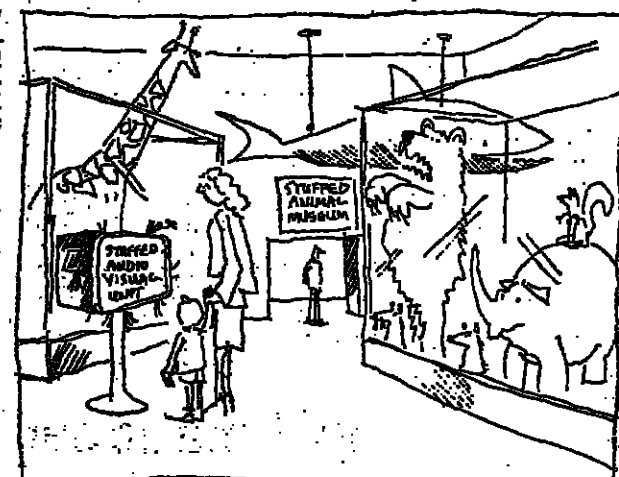
The example of London Experience bodes well for the future of multi-image shows, but Britain is well behind the United States in both the acquisition of sponsorship and in making it pay handsome dividends.

Slide-based and film-based audio-visual shows are more suitable for use in museums or for the portrayal of history than television. As showing media they have better and more versatile picture qualities than the small screen.

The fading contrast capability of even a simple video projector multi-image programme is perfectly suitable while costing much less than film or video, for situations where information must be presented in logical steps, but with inherent entertainment appeal.

Museums perform an essentially educational role and are not expected to be run like cinemas, so there are different principles involved for institutions such as the Geological Museum and the London Experience Theatre.

The Geological Museum's chief designer, Mr Giles Velarde, believes that like many previous innovations audio-visual aids enjoyed a fashionable period, but once people become too



acclimatized it only serves a purpose if it fulfils an exact requirement. Most people would have assumed that his current criterion was to be applied from the beginning.

The Geological Museum's usage has declined since it installed Britain Before Man in October, 1978. Its next major exhibit will feature some changing slides mixed with a tracking panorama, but no audio.

Video is unsuitable for presenting pictures as the museum's need for the best possible picture quality retains the age-old rule that there is nothing as good as a transparency in its own right. Video is almost useless there, although VDUs will be used when banks of words need to be presented.

As if emphasizing his belief that audio visual aids have passed a fashionable peak, Mr Velarde reported that the museum has scrapped plans to buy its own pulsing unit for slide-tape programmes.

The Science Museum is different, video is used extensively. Mr Arthur Rowley, an assistant museum keeper and head of audio-visual facilities, has 20 channels of video operational but could have many more since the museum owns 45 U-matic format machines.

Almost all the material screened on these comes to the museum as 16mm film footage so the four-stage process of transferring, editing, producing a multiple copy and working tapes means that the visitor sees a fourth generation picture of distinctly impaired quality.

Film was used before video, and dropped because of its high running costs. Video does cost four times as much to install but each cassette gives 500 passes, and even then it is replaced only to prevent unnecessary wear on the video heads.

In all, the Science Museum has 45 video machines as well as four or five single screen slide shows, one six-screen multi-image show and a three-screen Fordium exhibition. The latter is a film of the Chip and The Great Optical Illusion, which details the 50-year history of television—will use the staple number of video channels and single screen slide shows. There is not a growth in the use of audio-visual aids detectable there, but rather a consolidation.

The Area Museums Service is one Quango that has not escaped Government cuts, but at least it still exists. Funds that it can provide in the form of grants can act as a carrot to persuade small museums to use audio-visual aids and encourage their designers. Cash is the limiting factor, and it is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future.

There are instances where audio-visual aids are vital, however. The Ironbridge Gorge Museum, for example, tells an audio-visual story of its history before visitors set off around the open-air exhibits. A listening post would be a poor substitute in this case.

Acquiring sponsorship would appear to provide the logical means of funding, but sadly only the museums with inherent publicity value will benefit.

The World Expo and Disney World are often cited as the prime examples of audio-visual display at its best. If not its best, neither of them could ever be equalled in size and scope by events or centres in Britain, but their remarkable pulling power more than justifies the installation of so much audio-visual material. Disney World opened in 1971 and by 1977 had visited it in 1977 alone income exceeded \$300m.

George Jarro, deputy editor, Audio Visual.



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

AN HONEST AND TOUGH RESPONSE

It would be wrong to see President Carter merely as a weak president suddenly made strong by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. It is true that he admits to having undergone a change of perception but the change is not total. The new policies announced on Wednesday night modify but do not entirely displace those that went before. A thread of consistent and sincere endeavour remains.

Mr Carter's problem has not been weakness as such but bad management. Like previous presidents he has had to face the Soviet Union with a combination of firmness and willingness to negotiate. He has sometimes got the mixture wrong. He entered office with perhaps exaggerated hopes of negotiation and of drawing the Soviet Union into cooperation in the third world, but in a sense he presented it with a greater challenge than did previous Administrations when he tried to shift the emphasis from military confrontation, where the Soviet Union is strong, to ideological, moral and economic competition, where it is weak. This probably troubled the relationship as much as his vacillations.

He saw correctly that one of his first aims must be to regain moral credibility for the United States which was coming to be identified in many parts of the world with colonialism and other forms of oppression. In the long struggle for influence in the developing world this was a liability which could endanger American security as much as military weakness. He was therefore willing to take some risks in leaving the odium of military interventions to the Russians. In Africa the risk could be taken in the belief that Soviet influence would eventually be thrown off by nationalism and the need for

western economic aid. It has brought rewards in the form of steadily improving relations between the United States and third world countries. It is very unlikely that the historic vote on Afghanistan in the United Nations General Assembly would have been as overwhelmingly hostile to the Soviet Union if there had not been a diminution of hostility towards the United States in recent years.

The invasion of Afghanistan has reinforced this trend but it has also presented a new and more urgent challenge. It is one thing to risk letting the slow forces of history take care of Soviet intervention in Africa; it is something else to take the same risk when the Soviet Union occupies a hitherto non-aligned country on its own borders and moves its forces several hundred miles nearer the Gulf. At this point clear lines must be drawn. Mr Carter has now begun to draw them. "An attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region," he says, "will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States. It will be repelled by use of any means necessary, including military force." As for Pakistan, "the United States will take action—consistent with our own laws—to assist Pakistan in resisting any aggression." The more outward problem of whether to help the present Pakistani regime put down a possible Soviet-inspired insurrection in Baluchistan is avoided, which leaves an unfortunate though probably unavoidable grey area.

The rest of Mr Carter's address contains a series of measures and proposals which similarly reflect his newly sharpened awareness that the Soviet Union must be confronted on military as well as moral terms. He wants

defence spending increased and preparations made for a return to conscription, and he is pressing ahead with the creation of forces that can be deployed rapidly overseas. He speaks of working with other nations in the Gulf area to shape a co-operative security framework that respects differing values and political beliefs yet enhances the independence, security and prosperity of all. Rightly he links his energy programme with the security of the nation. At the same time he does not close all doors to negotiation with the Soviet Union on arms control.

The mixture as a whole is about right. The military balance has been allowed to tilt too much in favour of the Soviet Union. As Mr Carter pointed out, Soviet spending on defence has increased steadily in real terms while that of the United States declined from 1968 to 1976. Whether or not it was this that tempted the Soviet Union into Afghanistan it is now unavoidable that the defences of the west will have to be stiffened at the same time as its political commitments are more clearly defined.

Meanwhile, a qualitative change in Soviet behaviour has been matched by an appropriate change in Washington. The immediate prospects are bound to look gloomy. The arms race will continue unchecked. Defence spending will rise. The delicate threads of détente are breaking. The situation in Moscow is unpredictable. Out of this bruising experience, however, it is still possible for both sides to emerge more realistic about themselves and their adversary. Mr Carter has made a start. He needs—and, as Lord Carrington made clear, he has in Britain—the full support of his allies.

Victims of the steel dispute

From the President of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce

Sir, Chambers of Commerce within this association represent some two-thirds of the private sector of industry and commerce. None of this sector is a party to the steel dispute, yet it will suffer long-term damage and permanent loss of jobs as a consequence of the action now being taken.

The declared intention of the steel unions is to cripple not only the British Steel Corporation but also its suppliers and customers. The use of blacking and the strike call to the employees in private steel, who are not in dispute, have this objective. But neither wages nor jobs can be protected by causing the collapse of the customers.

The workers in those overseas countries who are refusing to send steel here during the strike must be laughing. They are not refusing to supply cars, ships, engineering products or domestic appliances to us or to our customers abroad. Their own steel industries and their workers will flourish at the expense of the very steel industry workers here who have sought their support.

It is not my role to apportion blame for the present dispute but surely it is possible, before further damage is done, to find a fair solution.

Taxpayers in other industries cannot be expected to provide even more cash for BSC when the opportunities for higher earnings out of greater productivity are not being used in the steel industry. But the taxpayer and the BSC can be expected to provide aid to establish new industries and jobs for those who become redundant as a result of the essential streamlining of the steel industry. It is here and not in the wage bargaining that government has a responsibility.

We urge BSC and the unions to reopen their negotiations and, if agreement cannot be reached, for the terms of the BSC offer to be clearly and simply set out and published for a ballot amongst all the employees who are on strike.

This should be done before many thousands of men and women, who have no dispute with their employers and only want to get on with their jobs, are put out of work. Yours faithfully, TOM BOARDMAN, 6-14 Dean Farrar Street, SW1, January 24.

Companion in arms

From Major-General K. S. Rudnicki

Sir, The project of placing a memorial plaque in the Coldstream Guards Memorial Cloister in the Guards Chapel to honour General Sir Oliver Leese has been most warmly received by the veterans of the 2nd Polish Corps and has awakened memories of the battles in the Italian Campaign.

Under the command of General Sir Oliver Leese the 2nd Polish Corps spent their most glorious days in the battles of Monte Cassino, Ancona, the Apennines and the Gothic Line. We all remember his outstanding abilities as a commander, his confidence and friendship he showed to General Anders and his Polish soldiers, and most of all the deep understanding of the political problems of the Polish Army fighting for a free Poland on foreign soil, far from their fatherland.

This fellowship at arms goes even closer when General Sir Oliver Leese put the magnificent British regiment of the 7th Hussars under General Anders's command. They fought in our unit, from June to August 1944, in many battles, and in appreciation of their valour and with General Leese's approval they were given the Warsaw coat of arms emblem, the Mermala (Syrena) of the 2nd Polish Corps, to wear. The Hussars wear the Polish Syrena to this day on their sleeves.

Yours faithfully, K. S. RUDNICKI, 53 Redcliffe Gardens, SW10, January 22.

An issue of 'Picture Post'

From Dr D. E. Martin

Sir, May I correct an error in Philip Norman's article on B. L. Coombes (December 29) and repeated in Sir Tom Hopkinson's letter (January 8)? Coombes was not, as Sir Tom says, "a minor figure" when his article appeared in *Picture Post* on January 4, 1941, and it is not true to say, as Mr Norman does, that he "went on to write a book, *These Poor Hands*". Coombes's book was published in 1939, when it was the *Left Book Club* choice for June.

Yours faithfully, DAVID E. MARTIN, Department of Economic and Social History, University of Sheffield, January 8.

Turn of the crew

From the Reverend M. J. Peel

Sir, While in no way doubting the truth of Mr Rainbird's story of his reply to the porter at Marks Tey, I must point out that it is nearly word for word the same as an account of an identical exchange which once took place on the up platform at Reading between a porter and the late Professor C. M. Joad, and to which your attention was drawn subsequently by Alec Clifton-Taylor in a letter entitled "I'm not here". In the latter's words, it was "surely the classic story on this theme, and the most amusing".

Is it possible, I wonder, that Mr Rainbird's reply was prompted by a subconscious recollection of having read about the philosopher's memorable riposte in your columns? Yours faithfully, MICHAEL J. PEEL, The Rectory, Iwer Heath, Iwer, Buckinghamshire, January 16.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Boycotting the Moscow Olympics

From Lord Monckton of Brechley

Sir, The British Olympic Committee appear to be out of touch with the feelings of the majority in this country and indeed with the ideals of the Games when they were restarted.

To enter sports as individuals and to strive for excellence is good, but the International Committee has allowed the Games to become a struggle between nations with flag waving and national anthems. Some countries have been banned whilst others do not enter for political reasons.

The Games are no longer contests between the best because some of the best are professionals, and teams entered by some countries as amateurs are virtually professional.

The time has now come for sportsmen to consider abolishing the Olympic Games and instead to have world championships in various parts of the world for different sports, which would include the best, whether amateur or professional.

Whether Russia has insured the Games in London or not, true sportsmen will surely refuse to go to Moscow after the invasion of a neutral country and the brutal treatment of her own nationals. Yours faithfully, MONCKTON OF BRECHLEY, House of Lords.

From Mrs J. Bentley and others

Sir, In view of the fact that Dr Andrei Sakharov has been sent into exile, we suggest that the United Kingdom should not merely boycott the Olympic Games, but also sever all sporting links with the USSR.

These links should not be reformed until the Soviet Union is ready to accord full human rights to all its citizens, in the spirit of the Helsinki Agreement.

Yours faithfully, J. BENTLEY, E. W. ROWELL, 20 Carlton House Terrace, SW1, January 23.

From Mrs H. S. Leibetseder

Sir, In 1936 I was a prisoner in Berlin awaiting trial for anti-Nazi activities which cost me three years in prison and a concentration camp. I remember vividly the impact of the news the Berlin Olympiad had on me and my cellmate. We cried in our helplessness.

Reviving Civil Defence

From Lord Noel-Baker

Sir, Many voices are being raised in the United States, Britain and elsewhere to argue that nuclear wars could be fought without total disaster; some even suggest that a nuclear war could be "won".

Perhaps Mr David Sneath (January 21) supports this thesis when he suggests that a Civil Defence programme would be a useful "insurance" against the devastation of a nuclear war.

Twenty-five years ago this view was shared by many governments, most notably by that of the United States. The United States Civil Defence Administration was an exceptionally able man, Mr Val Peterson. Mr Peterson organized many Civil Defence "exercises" at national, regional and local. In one exercise President Eisenhower and his staff took part by flying in a helicopter to an emergency headquarters outside Washington.

Mr Peterson made Americans so Civil-Defence conscious that in 1954 the Governor of California never travelled anywhere without carrying his "iron ration" with him in his car; a Christian priest advised his flock that it would be no sin for a man to shoot and kill his neighbour, if his neighbour tried to force an entry into his family's air raid shelter. Las Vegas organized a force of 5,000 men to repel Californians who might invade their city in seeking to escape a nuclear attack.

But Mr Peterson's experience can best be told in his own words. In 1955, he said: "One study showed that we could have 22 million casualties, of which, I think, seven million would be dead."

In 1955: "Plans would be made for evacuating, feeding and sheltering 100 million people living in 92 critical target areas."

In 1956: "The casualties of last year's exercise were 23 (sic) million. This year one third of the population (56 million) would be casualties."

In 1957: "If the whole 170 million Americans had Air Raid Shelters, at least 50 per cent of them would die in a surprise enemy attack. In the last analysis, there is no such thing as a nation being prepared for a thermonuclear war."

Surely all British people and the British Government should accept the joint warning of Lord Mountbatten (speech in Strasbourg, May 9, 1979) and Lord (Sir) Zuckerman (*The Times*, January 21, 1980) that any use of nuclear weapons will escalate into general war; that there is no defence against such weapons; and that nuclear war will destroy civilization, and perhaps exterminate mankind.

To hope for salvation from Civil Defence is a dangerous self-deluding pipe dream.

Yours etc, LORD NOEL-BAKER, House of Lords, January 24.

Links with Chile

From the Chilean Chargé d'Affaires

Sir, It is with interest that I have read some of the correspondence relating to the reestablishment of Ambassadors between Chile and the United Kingdom. The letters deal with British points of view on the subject of our relations with which correspond to an internal debate and in which I have no intervention.

But I do wish to express my surprise at the position taken by your newspaper which, in its editorial (*The Times*, January 18), enters into the matter of Anglo-Chilean relations not on a basis of mutual respect and equality, but as a privileged relation in which one country or government grants or does not grant its approval to another.

Risks of ECT

From Dr W. M. Keynes

Sir, You appeared tonight on a BBC Television "Question Time" in which electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) was criticized because an elderly patient had died after ECT against her wish.

The question of the giving of ECT is emotive, but it seems quite clear that it can be most helpful in some patients, particularly those with depression. What was not stated was that, in this instance, the death of the patient was in no way due to ECT, but was due to what is called an "anaesthetic death". The patient died in the anaesthetic recovery period from the inhalation of vomit, an accident that has not yet been explained.

How did she avoid the normal starvation period before anaesthesia which should have emptied an empty stomach before the anaesthetic was given? The question of the rights or wrongs of giving ECT against the wishes of a patient (who may not be in the position to question the medical reasons for giving the treatment)—in this case her daughter had given permission—cannot be argued from this unfortunate result.

Yours faithfully, MILO KEYNES, 3 Brunswick Walk, Cambridge, January 22.

knowing full well what a welcome propaganda boost this was for his country and indeed with the ideals of the Games when they were restarted.

To enter sports as individuals and to strive for excellence is good, but the International Committee has allowed the Games to become a struggle between nations with flag waving and national anthems. Some countries have been banned whilst others do not enter for political reasons.

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Prelate's tribute to a Prelate

From the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster

Sir, Archbishop Coggan retires today. May I ask you to allow me to express publicly my own gratitude to him for many kindnesses shown to me both in the north and more recently in London?

I trust that it will not be thought inappropriate to pay a more personal tribute than might be customary in your columns to a Churchman whose sincerity and integrity I very much respect. Prelates in high office, on the whole, find the institutional aspect of their office burdensome, though recognizing, of course, its importance.

The world of controversy into which they are inevitably drawn can wear down the spirit. That, too, is part of their life. Archbishop Coggan's vision of life, however, went beyond the construction of the institution and above the controversy which attracts immediate attention.

He treasures the things of the Spirit which really matter. These are not "news" in the conventional sense, but Good News for those who are hungry for a word from God. It is this that so many of us have appreciated in him.

In this tribute I would like to associate a great Christian lady, his wife Jean. May they be able to continue their lives of dedicated service, strengthened by the knowledge of the respect in which they are both held.

Yours faithfully, BASIL HUME, Archbishop's House, Westminster, SW1, January 21.

Clerics' broken marriages

From the Bishop of Chester

Sir, Your Religious Affairs Correspondent (January 21) deplores the lack of information concerning the rate of breakdown in the marriages of the Clergy. This startling deficiency in the common stock of human knowledge is so important that I must do my best to provide answers from at least one area of the country.

In the first place the rate is nil as far as the Roman Catholic Church is concerned. I have no knowledge of marital affairs within the Free Churches but I do not suspect that the declarative adjective in that title has any significance in this context. Between 1973 and 1979 in the Diocese of Chester, out of 330 full time clergy, there was one consensual marriage breakdown. During 1979 a further two instances resulted in the voluntary resignations of the Priests concerned. During that year three more instances became known to me where great difficulties were obvious but where no executive or final action has yet resulted.

I do not think there is any great mystery to be explained or great numbers of clergy to be counselled. For the sake of propriety I will not repeat the remarkable advice of my first Regimental Sergeant Major verbatim, but paraphrase as follows: "The two great causes of trouble in the world are the human tongue and the male procreative organ."

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant, VICTOR CESTR, Bishop's House, Chester, January 21.

The Ulster conundrum

From Major J. D. A. FitzGerald

Sir, Should Northern Ireland leave the United Kingdom, Great Britain would not need a new flag (P. W. Duncanson, January 18). The red saltire in the Union flag commonly but incorrectly described as the cross of St Patrick—that Saint not having been crucified never earned a cross—the heraldic saltire. This was probably carried by the first of that tribe when he, as one of the first Norman "immigrants", preceded Strongbow to Ireland.

A glance at any Great British telephone directory will show that sufficient of us have been repatriated, some voluntarily, some not, but certainly without Government financial aid, part of the way back to our country of origin, and that there are enough of us still resident in this country to justify retaining our saltire in our host country's flag.

Yours etc, JOHN FITZGERALD, The Coachhouse, Heworth Village, York.

Highest sea cliff

From Dr Mary E. Easthope

Sir, Which is the highest vertical sea cliff in Britain? Dan van der Var in his travel article in *The Times* (January 19) says it is St John's Head, Orkney. This is 1,240 ft.

I have looked down from the Kame, on Foula, Shetland (1,220 ft) and up Conachair, on St Kilda (over 1,300 ft), and have been close to the west wall of Boreary St Kilda (1,245 ft). A stone dropped from the top of any of these three will fall in the sea.

Yours sincerely, MARY EASTHOPE, 4 Salters Close, Belling Island, Hampshire.

Engineers to the fore

From Dr M. M. Kitson

Sir, There could be few better illustrations of the truth of your recent excellent leading article on the Fimiston Report (January 10) on the engineering profession than your own decision to consign the ensuing correspondence to the business pages while, at the same time, leaving your main correspondence page free for people to complain about the difficulties of gaining access to 12th century Pipe Rolls at the Public Record Office.

Yours faithfully, D. M. KITSON, 34 Woodstock Road North, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

THE CONDITIONS FOR EXTRADITION

Whatever the conditions of the former Shah of Iran's life in Panama—whether he is under arrest, as the Iranians claim, or "under the care of the security authorities", as the Panamanian government says—it appears that Panama is treating seriously the possibility of handing him back to the Ayatollah. Iran has asked for the former Shah's extradition, and a Panamanian spokesman has set out certain procedural requirements which had to be followed before the request could be considered. It is too soon to suggest that the Panamanian government is showing signs of succumbing to the pressures being put on it to expel the former Shah, but it should be made clear that for a number of reasons it would be unacceptable under international law for the Panamanian authorities to comply with Iranian wishes.

First, there is as yet no proper formal request. All there has been is a demand that the former Shah be handed back, couched in the most general terms, and not supported by the kind of evidence which most countries would require before even considering such a request. The evidence need not be overwhelming, but it should at least raise a prima facie case against the individual whose extradition is being sought. Second, there is no extradition agreement

between Iran and Panama. That is not necessarily fatal. A formal agreement facilitates the transfer of alleged criminals between two states, but its absence does not make it impossible, provided the criteria laid down by the government to whom the request is made are met.

Much more important is the third test that the government of Iran fails to meet. It is a principle of international law that an alleged offender should not be sent back to a country which does not itself have an effective system of justice. There can be no doubt that Iran is at present in a state of legal anarchy. None of the safeguards for an accused which would be regarded as essential in civilized countries apply in Iran. The law is, in effect, what the Ayatollah says it is. In no sense could any accused, let alone the former Shah, have anything remotely resembling a fair trial.

Fourth, a country which has so blatantly breached the fundamental principles of international behaviour should not be entitled to any of the benefits conferred by international law. By its continued support for the detention of the hostages, Iran has in effect placed itself in a state of international illegality. It is an act of considerable impudence on the part of an outlaw to try to use its advantage to the very set of rules which

he has flouted. The government of Panama has given a courteous hearing to the demands of the Iranians, which is more than deserved.

Even if the government of Iran were to move back towards a position of legality and justice and there are few signs of that happening—the Shah would have a good case for being granted political asylum. It is true that international law withdraws protection from those guilty of war crimes or crimes against humanity. Whatever excesses were permitted, or even ordered, by the former Shah, and however unpleasant and oppressive his regime, it was not of the same horrific order as, say, that of Amin or Bokassa. There is a difference between barbarism and genocide stemming from megalomania, and oppression resulting from a society, which was what the former Shah was attempting to do. Perhaps the best comparison is between the Shah and the Ayatollah Khomeini, both of whom for reasons of status have used criminal means to pursue their ideal, one of modernization, the other of a deviant version of Islam. The Shah is not an international criminal in the Nuremberg sense. He would be eligible for political asylum and should therefore be given it if he asks.

FRANCHISES MUST NOT BE FREEHOLD

Only one change of consequence was announced by the Independent Broadcasting Authority yesterday in setting out the conditions for the next round of commercial television franchises. For the first time in Britain there will be breakfast television. The need to extend the hours of television coverage is not immediately evident. But, as an article by Frank Vogle on page 19 today explains, breakfast television has for years been a success in the United States—though American television does not in general set a pattern from which Britain has much to learn. A sharp distinction must be drawn between the provision of more television in this sense and an increase in the number of channels competing for viewers at any one time. It is intensified competition of the second kind which is liable, unless there are stringent safeguards, to reduce the general level of quality in the frantic search for audiences. There is no reason why cornflakes televi-

FOREIGN REPORT

Unseen power-struggle to replace old men of the Kremlin

Mr Vladimir Kirilov, the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, who resigned on Tuesday, was the first public Soviet political casualty of Afghanistan. But the Soviet intervention and the worldwide condemnation it drew have intensified the unseen power struggle among the elderly men who rule the Soviet Union, and have complicated the question of who will succeed Mr Brezhnev as leader of the world's most formidable military power.

So many scenarios have been constructed by Western Kremlinologists for the succession to the ailing 73-year-old leader that sober minds in Moscow are now inclined to disregard them all and conclude that whoever says he knows the pattern of the future Soviet leadership is a liar.

No one in Moscow, however "reliable" his sources, can predict the shifting alliances and political fortunes of the 15 men who comprise the Soviet Politburo and from whose number the next Soviet leader is likely to come.

Moscow is now abuzz with rumours, speculation and deliberately downed misinformation. All that can be safely said is that the present generation of leaders, now on average 10 years above the legal retirement age for Soviet men, are facing death, division and dismemberment among their numbers; are locked in a collective struggle to maintain the status quo, deeply suspicious of the younger, better educated generation of party activists; and are secretly and widely despised by most Russians as out of touch and intellectually and physically exhausted.

In spite of the widespread reports of illness and occasional rumours of death, there seems little doubt that Mr Brezhnev, general secretary of the party for the past 15 years, is still in charge.

The recent suggestion that he was over-ruled in the decision to go into Afghanistan, and even that he was presented with an ultimatum by his more hardline colleagues, is dismissed by almost everyone in Moscow.

First, Politburo deliberations, though probably less inhibited than average Soviet political discussion, are not likely to follow the pattern of Cabinet meetings in the West. Mr Brezhnev would not have remained in power for so long if he was not able to sense the feeling of the meeting, sum up the views of his colleagues and himself, and propose the necessary compromise.

Second, the question of Afghanistan does not neatly divide the Politburo into hawks and doves. All are hawks when they see Soviet interests threatened: it is believed that Mr Gromyko, foreign Minister, and the man with the greatest understanding of Western reaction and mentality, was one of the leading advocates of intervention.

Third, there is no clear challenger to Mr Brezhnev, who has been identified with a rosy view of détente, which would not seem to help his chances in the post-Afghanistan atmosphere.

Two well-known senior men can probably be ruled out: Mr



Mikhail Suslov.



Konstantin Chernenko.



Yuri Andropov.



Dmitry Ustinov.

has been glorified as a cult figure almost surpassing that of Stalin in his heyday—a decision widely attributed to Mikhail Suslov, the veteran ideologist, whose Stalinist views are thought to favour a father-figure for the country—Mr Brezhnev is a creature of consensus who has genuinely attempted, usually with success, to keep the various factions in the Politburo in balance.

After his death (honourable retirement appears an increasingly unlikely option) there would be no strong reaction against his policies as they epitomize the policies of all, and all have an interest in preserving their own positions.

Most analysts suggest an interim leader who is not powerful enough to threaten his peers but is able to work with them. Such a choice might point to Andrei Kirilenko, aged 73, who has deputized for Mr Brezhnev, has a solid party base, experience in foreign affairs and has recently—usefully for him—taken a rather hard line in speeches on détente.

It might also point to Konstantin Chernenko, aged 68, a close associate of Mr Brezhnev, who is thought to be the party leader's own choice as a successor. But his recent elevation to Politburo membership would put him at a disadvantage with his colleagues once Mr Brezhnev is gone, and he has been widely identified with a rosy view of détente, which would not seem to help his chances in the post-Afghanistan atmosphere.

Two well-known senior men can probably be ruled out: Mr

Kosygin and Mr Gromyko. Mr Kosygin suffered a serious illness in October, said to be either a heart attack or a stroke, and is never likely to resume his full duties as Prime Minister again.

Mr Gromyko, four Foreign Minister for almost 23 years, is indispensable in his present job, and in any case is a fairly recent arrival in the Politburo with little experience in party affairs.

Arvid Pelshe, a party member since 1915 and now nearly 81, is clearly far too old. Mr Suslov, the apostle of ideological orthodoxy, has long been the kingmaker but seems at 77 too old now to be king, though his voice will still be influential in any choice.

There are signs that the worldwide reaction to the Afghanistan intervention, which he almost certainly advocated strongly, has damaged his standing somewhat. He did not appear at the airport farewell for M. Georges Marchais, the French Communist leader, although the press said he was there, and in a typically obscure Mafia-like indication of disapproval, Pravda recently printed a short piece about the publication of works by a senior Communist whose execution under Stalin was largely the result of Mr Suslov's condemnation.

Yuri Andropov, the head of the KGB, is thought to be less substantial than his awesome position would suggest, though his colleagues would probably be worried about putting anyone in charge with links such as he now has.

Michael Binyon

Dmitry Ustinov, the Defence Minister, is a competent technocrat whose future may depend on how well his troops perform in Afghanistan.

And Viktor Grishin, a former made man, leader and now head of the Moscow party organization, is a colourless man with few positive assets—though that in itself might recommend him at a time of crisis and deadlock.

Of the others, Dismukhamed Kunayev, head of the Kazakh party, is unlikely to succeed at a time when Russian ethnic nationalism is an increasingly strong force. Vladimir Shcherbitsky from the Ukraine, though an old friend of Mr Brezhnev, is far from the centre of power. Grigory Romanov, head of the Leningrad party, is at 56 the youngest member and patently ambitious, but is handicapped by his Leningrad origins, his name (every Russian cannot fail to see the irony), and by rumours that he was reprimanded by his colleagues for an extravagant wedding party he held for his daughter using a Tatar dinner service.

And the most recent newcomer, Nikolai Tikhonov, aged 74, was elevated to Politburo membership only in November and seems certain to succeed Mr Kosygin shortly as Prime Minister.

Afghanistan has presented the old men with a crisis whose dimensions they did not foresee. The quarrel with America and the threat of an Olympic boycott are not likely to be blamed on any single individual, however, or significantly help the political standing of one member over another.

What it will do is increase the influence of those who now have no resolve on the situation: Mr Ustinov, representing the military leader; Mr Gromyko, who has to deal with the rest of the world; Mr Andropov, who will supervise the consequent crackdown on dissidents and nationalists; Mr Suslov, who has to see the operation justified ideologically; and Mr Brezhnev himself, who has to formulate a replacement to his policy of détente. Their fate depends on their success in dealing with the problem.

Many Russians would like to see changes at the top, if only to get things moving and fresh decisions on such vital matters as the economy.

But changes are unlikely before the next party congress, which is not due for another year. There has been talk of bringing the congress forward to this autumn. But this proposal is of no interest to a leadership interested in preserving the status quo.

So the present leadership, virtually unchanged for half a generation, will continue while the real conflicts of forces—nationalism and regionalism, Westernism and Russia-first Slavophiles, liberals and hardliners, modernizers and ideologues, cautious worriers about international opinion and men with a wish to flex the muscles of a superpower—work themselves out beneath the surface.

Michael Binyon

Pirates could scupper Manila peace moves

Three months ago Filipino pirates hijacked a Malaysian ferry boat in the Sulu Sea separating the two countries—a common enough incident in an area so dense with pirates that ships' captains are routinely advised by their owners to ignore distress calls.

But subsequent investigations by officials from both countries have led to mutual accusations, and threaten to scuttle carefully nurtured moves to improve the strained relations between the two nations.

Manila's claim, in 1972, to the Malaysian state of Sabah, the Philippines insist that the transfer was not a cession but a loan.

The Philippines' claim to Sabah came when Britain announced its intention to relinquish its control over North Borneo to enable it to join the proposed Malaysian federation in 1963, and came just as Indonesia opposed the new grouping and began a policy of confrontation.

Relations between Manila and Kuala Lumpur worsened and although they later improved sufficiently for both countries to join Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia in forming the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean), the continued existence of the claim was a barrier to closer ties.

The Philippines also amended its constitution to incorporate Sabah into its territories and so when President Marcos, at his

speech at the Asean summit meeting in Kuala Lumpur in August, 1977, said he would take steps to disavow the claim, it was seen as a step to make amends. But the quid pro quo that Manila wanted—a border pact—was not acceptable to the Malaysians, who insist that the Marcos statement had no precedents.

The Philippines also allege that Malaysia is harbouring and supporting the Filipino Muslim guerrillas active in the civil war against Manila in the southern Mindanao provinces. This is denied in Kuala Lumpur, although diplomatic sources say that Malaysia has not completely withdrawn its support for the rebels. This has enabled Libya and other support to flow through Malaysian territory to the southern Philippines.

The Asean countries are worried that the growing estrangement between Kuala Lumpur and Manila is threatening the Asean's new-found unity. General Carlos Romulo, the Philippines Foreign Minister, has twice this year declined to come to Kuala Lumpur for urgent meetings of Asean foreign ministers and diplomats.

General Carlos Romulo, the Philippines Foreign Minister, has twice this year declined to come to Kuala Lumpur for urgent meetings of Asean foreign ministers and diplomats.

No Malaysian Prime Minister has visited Manila since Asean was formed, although

both Tun Abdul Razak, the former Prime Minister, and his successor, Datuk Hussein Onn, have visited the other three Asean countries. Officials say that there will be no visits until Manila withdraws its claim to Sabah.

Other irritants are in the offing. Recently, the Malaysian Foreign Ministry advised the Philippines to cancel a press conference called by an experienced self defence force which had just been gazetted. No reasons were officially available for the cancellation but it appears that the Philippines has challenged the demarcation of the continental shelf between the two countries in the Sulu Sea.

All these moves have been played down by both Governments, indicating that efforts are still under way to solve the issues. It has been pointed out that the statements concerning the ferry hijacking—which brought the continuing problem to the public eye—were made by regional officials and by Tan Sri Ghazali in Sabah.

There are many who feel that President Marcos, already facing internal opposition after nearly seven years of ruling by fiat, may not be strong enough to drop the Sabah claim, even if he wants to. But observers of the Filipino scene say that this is not so, at least for the moment.

M. G. G. Pillai

Argentina key to success of grain embargo

The success of the American grain embargo against the Soviet Union may depend on the attitude of Argentina, a country whose government the Carter Administration has condemned throughout its period of office.

Argentina wheat sales to Russia from the harvest now in progress are unlikely to exceed one million tons. But in April, the feed grain and oilseed harvest will be brought in and between maize, sorghum and soybean nearly 17 million tons should be available for export, the amount which President Carter's Union.

Argentina has close economic links with the United States and its military Government has always professed to uphold Western values of civilization. Yet, in Argentine eyes, when the country was facing well-armed Marxist guerrillas, who

had taken over half a province and shot down aircraft with surface-to-air missiles, President Carter's State Department roundly condemned the methods used to defeat the guerrillas.

Economically the United States has pushed Argentina towards the Soviet Union. When an American company wished to tender for the supply of turbines to the Yacretá hydroelectric dam, the State Department ordered the American Eximbank to withhold export finance. As a result the Russians were invited to take over the huge hydro-electric project of Paraná Medio.

During this period Argentina's exports to the Soviet Union increased enormously. In 1979, Russia became Argentina's individual customer for agricultural produce, purchases totalling \$320m (£142m). Most civilians involved in, or

friendly to, the military Government with the United States well and support it in the Afghan crisis. Foreign Ministry officials hoped that this would produce an opportunity for rapprochement with the United States before the publication of the report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights next month. But Argentina's Government is composed of members of the Armed Forces, and the military will neither forgive nor forget.

So somewhat precipitately Brigadier Carlos Washington Pastor, the Foreign Minister, declared that Argentina would not collaborate in any embargo. The reasons given were that Argentina was not consulted before President Carter's announcement, that Argentina conducted an independent foreign policy, that trade should not be subject to dogmatic considerations, and that economic

sanctions were not an effective political weapon. The policy of non-collaboration has received vociferous support from all the old-time politicians, as well as the brand of politicians who are a rich seam of anti-Americanism to be mined, and even if Brigadier Pastor wished to modify his position domestic propaganda reasons may prevent him.

The situation is one of the United States' creating. While the Shah ruled the world's second largest oil-exporting country, his much more repressive regime received American support. Argentina's position as the world's third biggest exporter of food was not considered in the attacks on its military Government. It will have to be considered now.

Tony Emerson

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POSTAL PUBLICITY DIVISION

Head of Section

£10,332-£12,697*

Applications are invited for a new appointment as Head of Section in the Publicity Division of the Postal Marketing Department based at Postal Headquarters in the City of London. The post is open to both men and women.

The Head of Section will be responsible to the Publicity Manager and the duties will include:

- the administration and servicing of Postal Business publicity campaigns and recruitment advertising;
- recommendation of effective publicity campaigns to client departments;
- liaison with advertising agencies and other specialist suppliers to ensure that recommendations are carried out effectively and economically;
- the co-ordination of publicity estimates with client departments and maintenance of budgetary control procedures.

In addition to co-ordinating the work of 3 specialist groups responsible for marketing and recruitment publicity campaign planning, design and production, audio-visual productions, schools publicity and budgetary control, the Head of Section will be required to maintain

close liaison with a Central Public Relations Department and public relations staff at 10 regional headquarters and will occasionally deputise for the Publicity Manager.

Qualifications Candidates must have a wide experience in all advertising media and audio-visual techniques as well as an understanding of design and production disciplines essential to the preparation of co-ordinated multi-media campaigns. Experience in working with leading advertising agencies is also essential as well as an ability to guide and manage specialist publicity staff. A Dip CAM or similar qualification would be an advantage.

The starting salary will be within the range quoted (which includes a London allowance). There is a generous leave allowance and a contributory pension scheme.

Application forms from PP1.12 (Mrs. J. Sutton), Room 329, Postal Headquarters, St. Martin's-le-Grand, LONDON EC1A 1HQ (tel: 01-432 4732).

The closing date for applications is 4 weeks from the date of this advertisement.

*New salary scales with effect from 1.4.80 are currently being negotiated.

The Post Office
Postal HeadquartersRoyal National Institute for the Blind
Director General

Applications are invited for this post which will become vacant on 1st September, 1980, on the retirement of the present Director General. Candidates with proven executive ability must have had wide experience as administrative officers in social welfare or local government and should have detailed knowledge of work for the blind. A combination of managerial and human relation skills essential.

Salary £15,000 p.a. plus provision of a car. Please apply with full curriculum vitae, including present post and salary, together with names of two referees, by 8th February. Applications marked "Confidential DG/RNIB" to the Chairman, RNIB, 224 Great Portland Street, London, W1N 6AA.

Appointments Vacant
also on page 23

GENERAL VACANCIES

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PROJECT MANAGER

FOR LARGE MARINE DEVELOPMENT

Construction of a new and prestigious marina will commence in 1980.

The Project Manager will take complete control of all aspects of the project from square one.

He must have had previous experience of large projects preferably overseas and not limited to the actual construction work, since he will be fully capable of co-ordinating the many types of technology and skills which will be essential to the successful completion of this very important addition to Hong Kong's amenities.

The project is expected to occupy 2 years but if desired could offer the opportunity thereafter of a permanent appointment as part of the management team.

Remuneration will be about HK\$145,000 p.a. (about £13,000) and terms of service include free furnished accommodation — company car — medical benefits — passages paid for family, etc. Current maximum rate of income tax in Hong Kong is 15 per cent.

Replies which will be treated in strict confidence should be sent to Box 0425 F, The Times.

NOTE: BARGE, France, seeks co-ordinator/manager, March-October. High standards, agreeable atmosphere, inland voyage, 1st class. Barges, Manchester Mill 016.

SENIOR EXPERIENCED PROPERTY person required to head team in central London. Agent. Salary—£10,000 p.a. plus 10% commission. AM or write Box 0003 F, The Times.

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We are looking for someone aged 30-40 with extensive accounting and administrative experience and preferably a postgraduate qualification. Salary up to £10,000 p.a. depending on qualifications and experience.

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PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

BURSAR

The Governors of Farringtons School, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 6LR, invite applications for the post of Bursar. An appointment is expected to be made for August 1st at the latest upon the retirement of the present Bursar. The Salary will be within the P.O. Scale 1 depending upon qualifications and experience.

Farringtons is a boarding and day school with 500 girls aged 5-18 and is administered by the Board of Management for Methodist Residential Schools. Full details of this post may be obtained from the Headmistress.

GENERAL VACANCIES

GENERAL VACANCIES

AUTHOR seeks competent male or female housekeeper some cooking as of March. Free to travel High-lands to France—write or phone 01-588 3576. Tel: 01-588 3576.

LOVE DRIVING? Experienced girl drives 30-50, preferred for car hire company in Corn. 4th March in mid-October. 4 years licence—01-588 3576.

FRENCH SPEAKING STUDENTS. French camp sites for 1980. 6-8th May to July or Aug to end of September. Applications from 10-15 years old. Write to: Mrs. J. Sutton, Room 329, Postal Headquarters, St. Martin's-le-Grand, LONDON EC1A 1HQ (tel: 01-432 4732).

THE SCOTCH OF A LIFETIME

**The
Buchanan
Blend**

A black and white photograph of a bottle of Buchanan's Scotch Whisky. The bottle is dark with a light-colored label that features the brand name and a crest. The bottle is positioned on the right side of the advertisement, next to the main title.[illegible]

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

Indices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Telex system. The prices are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the Index of 150 Industrial Stocks, are being reviewed and reconstituted to cover the period of non-publication.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Stock markets
FT Ind 448.7 down 2.1
FT Gilt 68.25 down 0.68

Sterling
\$ 2.2785 down 5 points
Index 72.1 up 0.3

Dollar
Index 84.7 up 0.1

Gold
\$705 an ounce up \$5

Money
3 mth £ 171 to 173
3 mth Euro\$ 14½ to 14½
6 mth Euro\$ 14½ to 14½

IN BRIEF

EEC seeks to borrow an additional £315m

The European Commission has decided to apply to the EEC Council of Ministers for authorization to borrow funds amounting to 500m units of account (£315m) on capital markets to finance the second half of the Community financing instrument known as the Ortolani facility.

As with the first 500m Unit of Account borrowing, which was authorized in May last year, the funds will be re-lent to help finance infrastructure and energy projects in the Community with the wider objective of contributing to the greater convergence and integration of the economies of the member states.

The Commission is also proposing that funds raised through the facility should be used in urban renewal programmes together with cash provided by national and local authorities.

£350,000m oil reserves
Britain's recoverable oil reserves valued at January, 1980 prices are worth about £350,000m or 220 per cent of the latest government estimate of the gross national product, Mr. Harold Grey, Minister of State for Energy, said yesterday. Gas reserves are valued at about half the oil reserve figure.

Brush closure plan
Brush Power have announced plans to close its switchgear factory at Banbury, Oxfordshire in the summer, making 190 people redundant. Production will be concentrated at Bridgend, in south Wales.

Rediffon sign £25m deal
Rediffon Simulation, a subsidiary of the British company Rediffusion, has signed a deal thought to be worth around £25m with the Boeing Company for the development of a new generation of jet simulators.

AMC £2m bond issue
The Agricultural Mortgage Corporation is to issue £2m worth of 15½ per cent bonds on January 30 at £100 per cent. The bonds will be redeemed at par on January 30 next year and are registered and transferable in multiples of £1,000 free of stamp duty.

Stock oversubscribed
Felixstowe Dock, the European Ferries' subsidiary, saw its 1984 preference stock to raise £5.5m oversubscribed yesterday. Applications were received for £6.33m one minute after lists opened. The minimum price for partial allotment was £98 and the average price obtained was £98.43.

Shipyard credits
Better credit terms for the British shipbuilding industry coupled with demands for the introduction of a comprehensive scrap and investment scheme and improved measures to assist the restructuring of the European shipbuilding industry are to be urged next month by British Euro-MPs, says Mr. Richard Caborn, European Labour MP for Sheffield.

Postal business sets unchanged financial targets for next 3 years

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

The Government announced yesterday that the present financial target for the postal business of the Post Office is to remain unchanged for the next three years.

The 2 per cent return on turnover will continue until 1982-83 and will span the period when the structure of the Post Office is reshaped. Legislation is planned to divide the postal and telecommunications functions into separate corporations.

Announcing the financial objective for the postal service, Mr. Adam Butler, Minister for Industry, said that the Government wanted to ensure that the postal service was not overburdened by rising costs over the five financial years from 1977-78 costs.

News of the maintained financial target came as plans were revealed for increasing postal order charges and some National Girobank charges within the next two months. Rising operating costs are expected to produce an estimated £2m loss on the postal order service in the present financial year as volume declines.

Mr. Butler said that, in agreeing the target for the postal business with the PO board, the Government had taken account of the statement of findings that, despite competition from other means of communication, the Post Office should be able to provide a good service without subsidy. The target, he said, would enable the postal business to meet its investment needs from profits and depreciation.

Last year the postal service made a profit of £33.1m, but in the first half of the current financial year the postal operation is thought to have recorded a loss of about £12m. When the final results are published early next month (Feb), the Post Office expects a substantial recovery, broadly in line with the 2 per cent objective. In its latest financial year the postal business was financing and paid back £8.7 million of loans.

Big airlines want fares rises of 10 per cent
From Alan McGregor
Geneva, Jan 24

Some 60 major airlines decided today to seek permission to increase air fares by between 5 and 10 per cent from April 1, with corresponding rises for freight rates of up to 13 per cent in some areas from March 1.

The decision came at the end of an eight-day meeting here, under the auspices of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), in which the main United States companies did not participate.

North Atlantic and Middle East flights will cost passengers about 10 per cent more. Air travellers within Europe are more fortunate, with a 5 per cent rise in prospect.

Capital investment on the postal business is expected to run at about £60m in each of the next three years, although final details have still to be settled with the Government. Much of the money will be used to complete the letter mechanisation programme.

An indication of the recovery made on the postal business was given yesterday by Sir William Barlow, Post Office chairman, who said postal delays had been reduced to their lowest level for some months. After the disruption caused by labour problems and letter bomb scares, delayed letters had fallen to 2,000,000, of which only about 0.4 per cent were first class letters. This compared with a total of 3,000,000 letters a day while in July last year delayed letters had totalled more than a day's deliveries.

Sir William—who has recently written to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry justifying the Post Office's monopoly of addressed mail—emphasized that there was still some way to go before all first class mail was delivered the next day.

The increased charges on postal orders and National Girobank services were submitted to the Post Office's monopoly of addressed mail—emphasized that there was still some way to go before all first class mail was delivered the next day.

The objective will be to provide and promote alternative money transfer services more suitable to modern conditions, the statement said. Fees for international Giro services are being increased, the debit transaction charges on overdraft accounts is being raised from 10p to 20p and fees for non-Giro payments at Post Offices to the credit of Giro customers will be increased from 20p to 25p.

Setback for tap stock investors
By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

Strong investment demand at the opening of business yesterday led to supplies of the Government's latest long dated gilt issue, Treasury 12½ per cent 2003-05, being exhausted immediately.

Yet investors who scrambled to secure stock at £25 1/32—the stock has been issued in £25 paid form—found themselves sitting on losses of more than 11 points by the end of the day. The price slipped back to £24.

Although the market was in retreat as profit-takers gained the upper hand, a somewhat ludicrous position developed in the new long-dated stock. Not only could investors who rushed to buy at £25 1/32 have

produced a new long-dated stock which remains in the red. But with the market looking rather soggy last night and clearly needing time to digest the very large purchases of gilts that have been made over recent weeks, the authorities may choose to bid their time.

Opinions do in any case differ as to how much more funding the Government is still going to need to do over the rest of the financial year.

It would be surprising, however, if it did not need to produce at least one more large stock, particularly if it is kept to bring monetary growth back to a middle, as opposed to the upper end of its target range, as quickly as possible.

Gold quieter with wide price swings
Trading in London from a Hong-kong close of \$680. The price was still very vulnerable to rumours about political developments in Iran, the United States and the Soviet Union. However, President Carter's pledge to use force in the Gulf, if necessary, did not upset the bullion markets much.

Silver, which has been caught in the same speculative bubble as gold, also gained some ground yesterday, closing \$8.50 up at \$8.55-1.800p. The price was driven up early yesterday morning, but trading in London slackened off markedly towards the end of the day.

In Zurich gold traders closed for the afternoon to catch up on the backlog of administrative work built up in the frantic markets earlier this week and last. Morning trading was again very busy.

At \$705 an ounce gold cost 34 per cent more yesterday than at the beginning of this year.

Foreign exchange markets continued calm yesterday. The dollar and the pound gained ground on average. Sterling was 0.3 points higher on the effective rate at 72.1 per cent of its end-1971 value and down 5 points against the dollar at \$2.2785.

Secret group swings IBA behind new channel for morning viewing
'Moles' surface in the breakfast TV thriller

Programme executives within the IBA and which at present appears to be the only applicant for the franchise announced yesterday.

They are Lord Lever, a senior Cabinet minister in the last Labour Government; Mr. Peter Jenkins, *The Guardian's* political writer and Mr. Jonathan Dimbleby, the broadcaster.

Waiting in the wings are a number of other journalists and broadcasters, some of whom are well known to the public and others little known outside their professional circles.

The group started to meet privately and informally in the early part of last year and tentatively formed the idea of a breakfast channel partly out of frustration with the present state of television current affairs.

Even at this stage, with the deadline for franchise applications set at May 9, the group has no formal structure. It may be assumed, however, that Lord Lever will take an active role in helping to raise finance for the venture.

The IBA has recognized that such a contractor would not immediately be as financially successful as the conventional companies. It would be expected to make money but would not—initially, at least—have to pay a subscription to the proposed fourth channel.

Mr. Dimbleby said last night: "Obviously we are delighted because we have been looking around for ways to extend the area of broadcasting."

The IBA has carefully covered itself over the prospect of starting the channel by stating that, although applications are invited, it is giving no undertaking that one will be set up.

Combined operation
Wilkinson Sword and Bryant and May consumer products are being placed under a single operating board by the parent company, Wilkinson Match.

Mr. R. H. Armitage becomes deputy managing director in charge of the consumer products. He reports to Mr. John Bloxidge, who joined the company last October.

Registration of Renunciation
The attention of holders of renounced Letters of Acceptance, i.e., those with Form X completed or marked "Original duly renounced" is drawn to instruction 5 on page 3 of the Letter. The removal of United Kingdom exchange controls means that the declaration at the foot of Form Y on page 4 need no longer be made. Accordingly it may be deleted when Form Y is signed prior to lodgment of fully paid Letters for registration of renunciation on or before 3 p.m. on 20th February.

The American experience
page 19

At the beginning of this year, the dollar and the pound gained ground on average. Sterling was 0.3 points higher on the effective rate at 72.1 per cent of its end-1971 value and down 5 points against the dollar at \$2.2785.

Turkey devalues lira 50 pc to combat runaway inflation
From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, Jan 24

Turkey's minority conservative government of Mr. Süleyman Demirel today devalued the lira by nearly 50 per cent in a measure aimed, it said, to "revitalize the economy."

The devaluation, which raises the exchange rate of the dollar from 47.10 to 70 lira, was announced seven hours after the start of a cabinet meeting to discuss economic measures aimed at restoring order to the Turkish economy.

A communiqué said the values of other currencies would be announced later by the Turkish Central Bank. If the pound is made to gain to the Turkish lira as much as the dollar has its rate of exchange should go up from 106.33 to 158.03.

The government thus appears to have abolished the "double standard" applied to the Turkish lira over the past two years, which officially kept it at a low level but paid a "bonus" to practically all currency imports to maintain the exchange rate within limits.

In an effort to "encourage the economy, increase hard currency incomes and fight inflation," the government announced, taxes on imports had been reduced from 25 per cent to 1 per cent.

British Steel's prices well above those of European competitors
Sharp differences have emerged between European steel and British Steel Corporation prices which could produce a further switch to imports when the four-week-old BSC strike is resolved.

Across a range of a dozen key products, BSC prices are between £3 and £54 a tonne higher than elsewhere in Europe. In only one case is BSC cheaper than its competitors.

A detailed comparison has been made by the British Iron and Steel Consumers' Council, the industry's watchdog. It shows that—on the basis of the latest guidance prices laid down under the EEC Commission's stabilization plan for the industry—the European price for hot rolled coil is £170.50 a tonne against £173.50 at BSC.

At the other end of the scale, the survey shows that for steel sections the guidance price, which is the price pro-

ducers are urged to secure—stands at £174 a tonne against a BSC basis price of £228.

For hot rolled narrow strip the guide price is £170.50 a tonne against a BSC price of £195, while wire rod differential is a BSC price of £199 a tonne against a guidance price of £178.50.

The council noted, however, that large United Kingdom consumers have been able to secure substantial quantity discounts below the BSC basis prices. Evidence collected by the council suggested that EEC prices for the full range of flat products—coil, sheet and plate—were "well below the guidance prices and are expected to weaken still further."

BSC has sought to underline the disparity between its prices and those of its major competitors. Industrial consumers who have suffered as a result of the current strike can be expected to secure further contracts with foreign steelmakers.

Between 1973-74 and 1978-79, while the overall United Kingdom market has fallen, BSC's share of the market has slipped from 62 per cent to 54 per cent, while the share held by imported steel has crept up from 13 per cent to 20 per cent.

After a round of BSC price increases last year, imports rose, and in the case of sections doubled in volume, as the corporation's export trade was hit by the strengthening value of sterling. The corporation plans to hold prices to as near the basis level as possible.

BSC's emphasis in the current dispute on securing wage increases through self-financing productivity deals underscores its commitment to holding on to its market without adding further to its costs.

Britain protests over Norway oil contracts
By John Huxley

Britain has protested to the Norwegian government over a lack of construction work and service contracts for the Statfjord oil field being awarded to British companies.

Mr. Hamish Gray, Minister of State at the Department of Energy, said yesterday that he was not satisfied with the Norwegian record and had made his concern clear.

It is understood that the award of work for structures in the oilfield, which straddles the line dividing the British and Norwegian sectors, was among the issues discussed when Mr. Gray met his opposite number recently. Mr. Bjartmar Gjerd, the Norwegian Minister of Petroleum and Energy, is on a three-day visit to the United Kingdom.

In a written reply to a question from Mr. Sydney Chapman, Conservative MP for Chipping Barnet, Mr. Gray said yesterday that he had emphasized to the Norwegians the need to have a regime of international competitive bidding for the third platform for the field.

He hoped that, under this regime, "competitive British companies might have the opportunity to enhance their involvement in the project. So far, involvement has been disappointing, especially considering that the British National Oil Corporation has more than a 5 per cent share in the field."

The operating staff on the A platform, which straddles the line dividing the British and Norwegian sectors, was among the issues discussed when Mr. Gray met his opposite number recently. Mr. Bjartmar Gjerd, the Norwegian Minister of Petroleum and Energy, is on a three-day visit to the United Kingdom.

Development of the field, which is being handled by Mobil Exploration Norway, has been much delayed and costs have soared.

British and Norwegian licenses for the field are under a unit operating agreement covering the field in June last year, after more than five years of discussions.

The total British share in the field is a little more than 11 per cent. Apart from BNO, other members of the Statfjord group are Statoil (the Norwegian state oil organization), Mobil, Conoco, Esso, Shell, Gulf, Saga Petroleum, Amerasia, Amoco and Texas Eastern.



The British Petroleum Company Limited

Ordinary Shares of 25p each

Offer for Sale by the Bank of England on behalf of H.M. Government

Final Instalment Due 6th February 1980

The Bank of England wish to remind holders of Letters of Acceptance that the final instalment of £2.13 per Share MUST BE PAID BY 3 P.M. ON 6TH FEBRUARY. Cheques for the amounts due, made payable to the Bank of England and crossed "Not negotiable—BP Shares" must be forwarded, with the LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE, TO THE APPROPRIATE RECEIVING BANK WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS APPEARS IN THE BOX ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF PAGE 1 OF LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE.

Registration of Renunciation

The attention of holders of renounced Letters of Acceptance, i.e., those with Form X completed or marked "Original duly renounced" is drawn to instruction 5 on page 3 of the Letter. The removal of United Kingdom exchange controls means that the declaration at the foot of Form Y on page 4 need no longer be made. Accordingly it may be deleted when Form Y is signed prior to lodgment of fully paid Letters for registration of renunciation on or before 3 p.m. on 20th February.

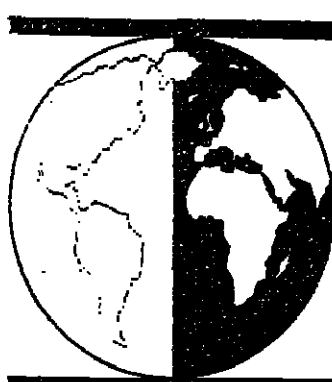
PRICE CHANGES

Rises
Anglo Amer Ind 40p to 850p
Grosvonts 25c to 825c
Howard & Wynn 2p to 10p
Metals Exploit 8p to 71p

Falls
Aero & Gen 10p to 209p
BSR 4p to 33p
Change Waves 11p to 71p
Davy Corp 15p to 51p
Grattan Wase 8p to 99p

THE POUND

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.11	Norway Kr	12.00
Austria Sch	29.75	Portugal Esc	20.00
Belgium Fr	68.25	Spain Ptas	167.00
Canada \$	2.89	Sweden Kr	9.78
Denmark Kr	12.77	Switzerland Fr	3.54
Finland Mk	8.70	USA \$	2.27
France Fr	9.52	Yugoslavia Dnr	49.00
Germany Dm	4.12		
Greece Dr	101.00		
Hongkong \$	11.32		
Italy Lira	567.00		
Japan Yen	542.00		
Netherlands Gld	4.53		



Western nations agree that bullion should back substitution account

The main IMF countries go for gold

Top United States officials have lost no time in denying recent rumours of a "remonetization" of gold. But at the same time it is acknowledged that the International Monetary Fund has floated the idea of using some of its vast store of gold as a capital guarantee for its proposed substitution account.

The contradiction can only be partly resolved. Mr Anthony Solomon, outgoing Deputy Secretary at the United States Treasury, has insisted that the use of gold as a backing for the substitution account would not amount to remonetization. There is no question of bringing gold back as a means of settling debts between central banks, nor of reintroducing the convertibility of the dollar or any other currency into gold.

Nonetheless, gold's importance in the world money system would surely be enhanced if it were to be used in the substitution account, even if its use was limited to providing an ultimate backing for the capital of the account.

The IMF interest in using gold springs less from the present drama in the world's bullion markets than from the inherent problems in designing a substitution account.

Major Western countries now seem united in their desire to win approval for the account at the IMF's interim committee meeting in Hamburg at the end of April. Some had even hoped to get it agreed before then, although this prospect has dimmed in recent weeks. The drive to resolve the outstanding difficulties is on.

The aim of the proposed account is to take some of the world's unwanted dollars out of the international money system. Under the scheme, countries would be able to exchange some of their official holdings of dollars for the IMF's own "Special Drawing Rights" (SDR). This is based on a basket of IMF currencies.

A stumbling block for the scheme is the obvious danger that the dollars which the IMF receives might fall in value in relation to the SDRs which it issues. Who should bear the exchange rate risk—the United States government, as issuer of the dollars, or the IMF?

OFFICIAL GOLD HOLDINGS OF MAJOR COUNTRIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND, END 1979	
USA	M.03
GERMANY	283.2
SWITZERLAND	94.9
FRANCE	84.3
ITALY	81.6
OPEC TOTAL	66.5
IMF*	100.00

* Approx at end May, 1980.

Previous American opposition to the idea of a substitution account has largely been based on its unwillingness to bear the potential cost. The United States administration has been baulking the proposal for some time. But it's anyone's guess whether Congress, which would have to approve it in the end, would be willing to underwrite the account.

It could be equally hard to get other IMF members to agree that they would be responsible for bridging the potential gap between the dollar assets of the account and its SDR liabilities. Hence the attraction of using gold, of which the IMF still has plenty, as a backing for the capital of the account. It is apparently a painless way of getting round the problem of the exchange risk.

But it has many serious flaws, the first of which is the sheer amount of gold that would be necessary to provide an adequate capital guarantee. The IMF would have 100m ounces of gold in its coffers when the present programme of gold auctions finishes in May. Estimates inside the Fund suggest that the IMF would require the support of many less developed countries as well as the big industrialized countries and Opec.

This leads to the second, possibly insuperable, problem. The use of gold would have to be sanctioned by an 85 per cent majority in the IMF. This would require the support of many less developed countries as well as the big industrialized countries and Opec.

Indications at the moment are that

most developing countries would strongly oppose the idea. They are not particularly interested in the substitution account anyway.

It will, after all, primarily help rich countries. The United States would benefit by an easing of the burdens imposed by the role of the dollar and its consequent vulnerability on foreign exchange markets. West Germany and other countries with strong currencies would welcome an account which took some of the upward pressure off their currencies by providing another outlet for unwanted dollars. Exporters would be able to diversify their foreign exchange earnings without upsetting currency markets and driving down the value of their remaining dollar holdings.

Other industrialized nations including Britain back the substitution account in the belief that any move to stabilize world financial markets is a good thing. But it would provide no positive benefit for the poorer developing countries.

These countries will probably not oppose the account itself in April, but would be against the tying up IMF gold in it. They would prefer the gold to be used to help them directly, to finance their balance of payments for example. The profits from the IMF series of gold auctions have been used to give soft loans to developing countries.

The gold plan is just one of several aimed at getting round the exchange risk problem. The United States, West Germany, Japan, Britain and France will probably push hard for agreement on one of them in Hamburg.

It could still take a year or more to set up the account, as some countries may need legislation to approve it. Although it appears to be aiming for an eventual total of \$500m, the balance of the account is likely to be nearer \$10,000m when and if it is first set up. Both these sums of course are dwarfed by the total amount of money on the Euromarkets, which will still be able to upset currency markets.

Caroline Atkinson

Mitsubishi releases shipment for Chrysler

Chrysler Corporation announced in Detroit that Mitsubishi Motors has released a United States-bound shipment of 2,000 cars and trucks, delayed by a credit dispute, following an agreement under which Chrysler will pay Mitsubishi within 15 days of delivery.

Chrysler, which is Mitsubishi's American distributor, said the agreement may not apply to future car shipments. It is continuing negotiations with Japanese banks to obtain financing for future shipments.

Meanwhile, in yet another effort to lure shoppers to its showrooms, Chrysler has promised a major new marketing programme. Details are not yet known, but last week the company launched a "money-back guarantee" scheme in Salt Lake City whereby Chrysler will refund the full purchase price of a new car to a buyer who, for any reason within the first 30 days or 1,000 miles, decides against the purchase.

Gas find in China

Three new natural gas fields with abundant reserves have been discovered in the eastern part of Sichuan province, the People's Daily reports in Peking. The newspaper gave no figures on estimated reserves, but said prospects were encouraging for future discoveries and development in the area.

Saudi ENI decision

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, has ruled out any possibility for the moment of re-activating the direct oil supply deal with Italian state oil company ENI, suspended last December. Centro Rio Manzoni, an Italian trade organization has announced in Rome.

Australian M3 rises

Australia's seasonally adjusted M3 money supply rose \$A501m (about £247m) in December to \$A47,050m after rising a marginally downward revised \$A60m to \$A46,530m in November.

Hongkong trade deficit

Hongkong's visible trade deficit narrowed to \$HK\$35m (about £78m) in December from a revised \$HK\$89m deficit in November and a \$HK\$1,290m deficit in December, 1978.

Banks woo Rhodesia

Chase Manhattan Bank and Citibank officials based in Johannesburg are competing with one another to court Rhodesian banks in an effort to secure a good portion of that country's business after a government is elected next month. Rhodesia has an ambitious five-year development plan, and hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign loans will be needed.

US car sales fall 24pc

The pace of domestic United States new-car sales in mid-January fell 24 per cent from a year earlier, it has been reported from Detroit. General Motors sold 23 per cent fewer cars than a year earlier. Ford Motor Corporation sales fell more than 30 per cent, and Chrysler posted a 36 per cent drop. But sales of Volkswagen of America rose more than 19 per cent and American Motors rose an estimated 9 per cent.

Chilean miners turn down offer

Santiago, Jan 24.—Workers at the strike-bound El Teniente copper mine voted overwhelmingly to reject the Chilean Government's offer of pay raises 9 per cent higher than the cost of living.

With about 75 per cent of the votes counted, miners were about two to one against the offer.

The 15-month proposed contract also called for annual production bonuses ranging from 46 to 63 per cent of monthly salaries. Salaries began at about the equivalent of \$66 a month.

"Unless something happens to change the vote, in which about 66 per cent of the workers have rejected the company offer, we'll have a legal strike beginning on Friday," said Senator Guillermo Medina, leader of an eight-month negotiating group.

A shutdown at the giant, government-owned mine, second largest in Chile, would be a serious economic blow. The mine produces some 280,000 tonnes of finished copper a year. Prices of copper are at their highest for years.

The strike is the largest in Chile since Marxist President Salvador Allende was toppled by General Augusto Pinochet in 1973.

Strikes were illegal in Chile until last June, when the Government adopted a new labour code.

NEDC chief calls for legislation on industrial democracy

By Patricia Tisdall
Lack of proper consultation between workers and managers was a basic cause of industrial problems, Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director general of the National Economic Development Office, said yesterday.

Mr Chandler who was speaking at a chamber of commerce lunch in Aberdeen strongly advocated legislation as the best method of ensuring that consultative mechanisms were established at company and plant level.

Legislation would not be a burden to the smaller company because "those which are worth their salt will already be using the advantage of their smallness to involve their employees," he said.

Statutory consultative arrangements involving management and workforce representatives would require the provision of intelligible information. It would put pressure on managers to present the facts of company life clearly to employees and put pressure on them to shoulder the responsibility of understanding and responding to these facts once they are accepted.

"I believe that the identity of the individual with the success of the enterprise for which he or she works... could be a strong weapon for putting pressure both on bad management, bad trade unionism, and bad workforce representation where they exist, to improve performance. No other single measure could have such significance as this in the long run."

The effectiveness of the National Economic Development Council as a stimulus to change could be strengthened as a result. The problem was that too often there was no effective linkage between NEDO's sector committees and companies. "One of the inhibiting factors in this is the lack of effective consultative and communication mechanisms within companies."

Mr Chandler did not refer directly to Labour's proposals for worker participation. But he described the legacy of the Bullock Report as "unfortunate."

However, he believes that the time has come for establishing statutory consultative procedures. He did not speculate on the form of legislation except to say that it should concern itself with broad objectives.

Industrialists' main objections to the previous Government's proposals were that trade unions were to be the main channel for consultation and that companies would have to appoint worker directors.



Mr Wesley Howe: Britain "hospitality" to his company.

£9m medical plant for Plymouth

The multinational medical product company Becon Dickinson announced plans for a £9m manufacturing base employing 250 people in Plymouth yesterday.

Mr Wesley Howe, company president, said the company's decision to invest in the United Kingdom was based on changes in public policy which have offered the advantages of setting up business in tax havens.

The continuation of stock relief tax, crucially important to an operation such as the firm plans, was one of the key reasons behind the decision.

When Becon Dickinson, which is based in New Jersey and has 12 other plants including France and Spain, started to look for a new European manufacturing base, Britain was not originally on its list of potential sites.

But changes made in United Kingdom business taxation, which were of the utmost importance, he added.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Threat to UK car industry

From Mr P. Hobroyd
Sir, In view of the recent concerns in the future of United Kingdom car production, an industrial colleague and I decided to look in some detail at the prospects for the next five years. No large complex computer forecasting models are required.

A straightforward calculation using a simple and effective but little known approach known as Substitution Analysis indicates the possibility that, unless positive counter action is taken, then by 1982 the United Kingdom manufacturers could have only 30 per cent of the market, and that by 1985 this could have decreased further to 18 per cent and still be declining.

These figures correspond to actual United Kingdom production levels (including export models) changing from 950,000 in 1980 to 740,000 in 1982, and to 450,000 in 1985. It is doubtful if the United Kingdom car industry can survive such a lowering of activity in such a short time. And yet, this is likely to be the case if the United Kingdom consumer continues to show a preference for imported cars, whatever the reasons.

Unfortunately, it is well known that product substitutions dependent upon a perceived (real or imaginary) superiority of one product for another are difficult to alter once they become established. Consequently, unless dramatic action is undertaken then the prospects seem to favour a greater than 50 per cent reduction in United Kingdom car manufacturing within the next five years, with all the associated problems that this will bring to the extensive support industries car manufacturing has generated.

The large scale remedies to this situation are clear, but unlikely. A rapid change of purchasing attitude by United Kingdom customers. A high quality reliable United Kingdom car being made and recognized as such by the public.

Unit labour costs in the United Kingdom quickly reducing to competitive levels. Voluntary restriction of further imports to this country by foreign manufacturers.

The imposing of import controls by the British Government. On the other hand the major factors which will further the decline of the United Kingdom car industry seem equally clear—but more than likely.

Increases in fuel prices ult-

mately reducing car sales within Europe. Continuing increase of both natural and wilful raw material supply restrictions. Increasingly aggressive marketing by overseas manufacturers as developed markets become saturated.

Inability of BL to carry out its "corporate plan" within the short time span available. Worsening economic situation over next three years encouraging a lower rate of car ownership turnover.

In the light of the above analysis, it would seem that most of us whose future life style of comfort, convenience and income is determined in some way by the United Kingdom car industry, should seriously assess the consequences of a possible complete collapse of this industry upon our own fortunes and that of our organizations and institutions.

Yours faithfully,
P. HOBROYD,
Senior Research Fellow, Bradford Forecasting Group, Management Centre, University of Bradford, Union Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD9 4JL, January 22.

In defence of 'quangos'

From Ian Earle
Sir, The publication of the White Paper following the study and report of Sir Leo Pliatzky brings the subject of 'quangos' into renewed prominence. I have the great privilege of starting two such bodies—the Export Council for Europe in 1960 and the British National Export Council in 1964. In 1971, our 'death sentence' was signed by the then government, so we have the dubious distinction of being one of the earliest quangos to go out of existence and in our case to be taken over by the staff of the Civil Service and to be renamed the British Overseas Trade Board.

After such a traumatic experience it is still difficult to be totally impartial. We believed, and still believe, that the work of export promotion was best undertaken by people whose careers would not be affected if it was decided to make—and who can say that in promotion where opportunities have to be seized quickly or missed for ever, anyone can always be right? We certainly were not infallible.

The key to any success

which we may have achieved was the active involvement (not just round the committee tables but essentially in the market places overseas and at home) of some thousands of our members. Some of these were exporters who could rely on the small permanent staff to support them and on occasions even to stimulate them. Our finances were rightly restricted and carefully controlled, but no account was taken of the massive contribution in time and money provided by these thousands of export experts and their companies.

It is hard to avoid the conclusion that in our case a mistake was made in abolishing this quango. I hope that for the time being, at least, the petty savings envisaged in the recent White Paper there will not be any further diminution of the unpaid and expert knowledge available to our country in a national cause which is of such importance to other countries in the world.

Yours faithfully,
IAN EARLE,
5 Mckay Road, Wimbeldon Common, London, SW20, January 18.

Non-operating companies

From Mr A. Verdin
Sir, There is a report again of a limited company seeking a range of subsidiary companies allegedly to avoid paying tax. The financial pages of your paper frequently have reports of companies which exist solely to take advantage of the taxation structure, to cancel or complicate control or merely to add assets in convenient parcels.

A limited liability company was a useful device by which people could band together to take risks of trade or manufacture without necessarily risking the whole of their personal assets (it is ironic that directors of private working companies such as I and must generally secure their overdrafts by personal debenture).

Formation of companies should be restricted to such ventures and all non-operating companies should be abolished and wound up. This would merely be a paper exercise and would leave the structure and ownership of industry clear. It would also mean that company records (perhaps 20 per cent of these now in being?) could be held more conveniently in London and that the numbers of civil servants recording and pointing these unproductive elements could be sharply reduced. A simple option to the Government to cut expenditure and at the same time be seen to be fair to the working population—or do too many politicians have their fingers in these pies?

It seems relatively easy to legislate for this common sense approach. Lawyers and legislators will doubtless find difficulties, but that is surely because they, too, thrive and prosper on an unnecessarily complicated world.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY VERDIN,
Managing Director, Analysis Automation Limited, Cherwell Boathouse, Bardwell Road, Bardwell, Oxford, OX2 6SR.

Health insurance

From Professor H. A. L. Cockerell
Sir, The rapidly mounting cost of private hospital treatment means that many retired people cannot afford to pay the subscriptions necessary to insure themselves fully. This means they are left with partial cover which provides for small claims better than for large ones, yet it is for large claims, where a stay in hospital has to be prolonged, that they really need protection. They can probably cope themselves with minor matters.

Would it not be more sensible, therefore, if those who cannot afford full contributions should have cover available to them on an "excess" basis: excluding, say, the first £1,000 of any one claim? Their modest subscriptions could then be used entirely for paying serious claims rather than for claims that are within their ability to pay.

Yours faithfully,
H. A. L. COCKERELL,
Visiting Professor in Insurance Studies, The City University Business School, Gresham College, Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5AH, January 15.

Search for graduate talent

From Mr R. F. Marshall
Sir, We in the engineering industry are constantly being urged to "improve our image", but an image can only be improved to the extent that the "reality" it represents is itself improved. Much is being done and much needs to be done. Some things take time but there are some things which convey a poor image of industry which can be changed immediately by referring to the practice by employers of referring to their programmes of recruitment visits to universities as "the milk round".

Surely such a term debases what is a serious matter both for the employer and for the student and is hardly a routine, albeit essential, job. Moreover, the whole recruitment process is the opposite to that of the milk round. We go to the universities to try to attract "the cream" to our employment.

The milk roundsman leaves the cream on the doorstep and takes away such empties that have been put out for him. If they the object of our recruitment process is to take away (recruit) the empties and to leave the cream behind it is perhaps not surprising that the engineering industry does not attract the graduate talent it deserves!

Yours faithfully,
R. F. MARSHALL,
Corporate Adviser (Education and Training), British Aerospace, Brooklands Road, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 0SJ.

Mr Jenkins is concerned at the "virtuous" nature of progress at the building of nuclear reactors". He also mentions the recommendations of the Marshall Committee on CHP. He says that the support of the Government's support of a nuclear programme by your report (January 15) that "Coal and nuclear power are the only economic energy alternatives for petroleum during the rest of this century, a National Academy Sciences report said in Washington".

The opponents of nuclear power, who I suspect will not want to be quiescent for long, may also perhaps reconcile themselves to find a positive and practical outlet for their enthusiasm by directing their energies toward supporting combined heat and power. If

they read Dr Marshall's report on CHP they would find that in looking forward to the turn of the century it says "If CHP were used instead of direct on peak electrical heating for this high density heat load, power station capacity could be reduced by about 30 gigawatts (or 15 large power stations). Perhaps this might be 15 less nuclear stations."

On the lobby might put their weight behind developing nuclear combined heat and power stations of which the USSR already has at least one in practice and several nations have them on the drawing boards.

In an event both the need to be equipped for nuclear power and the colossal saving in resources that is available via CHP should surely be clamorously proclaimed.

Yours sincerely,
C. M. D. PETERS,
The Total Energy Company Limited, 5 William Orchard Close, Old Headington, Oxford OX3 9DR.

ENGLISH CHINA CLAYS LIMITED

LORD ABERCONWAY reports on a buoyant year.

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement.

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT STATEMENT for the year ended 30th September		1979	1978
Turnover	£'000	280,790	234,244
Group profit before taxation	£'000	33,115	24,482
Group profit after taxation	£'000	24,030	17,185
Dividend	£'000	8,068	6,402
Retained profit	£'000	17,529	10,739
Earnings per share	pence	14.89p	10.66p
Dividend cover (times)		3.0	2.7

RESULTS
The profit of the Group before taxation for the year to 30th September 1979 was some £33,100,000, an increase over the previous year of more than one third. Great credit for this result must go to our people at all levels and in all divisions. We suffered during the year a greater number of non-recurring items of cost than we usually experience. Had it not been for these, the profits would have been better and could be regarded as auguring well for the future if only the prospective demand for products of the Group, and particularly china clay, could be viewed with confidence.

Unfortunately we see signs, but at this stage only signs, of a slow down in the demand for china clay in line with the general economic contraction widely forecast; but it is hard to say how early, how steep, and how deep any downturn in demand will be.

The directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of 2.8825p per share, making, with the interim dividend already paid, a total for the year of 5.0p per share. This is the first year for some time that there is no dividend restraint.

CLAY DIVISION
In the early days of our financial year, world markets in china clay were still showing growth, world economic climates still improving. This modest progress was halted in the spring of 1979 by a yet another oil crisis provoked by the political disturbances in Iran. Increased oil prices fuelled inflation, increased costs, exchange rates became erratic and trading conditions were difficult. Even so, the paper market, which takes worldwide nearly 80 per cent of our china clay output, held up well and our production was kept at full strength throughout the year. Indeed, as well as our production units, our sales themselves increased. Output that, as I write, our stocks in our various stores at home and overseas have been restored to reasonable volumes.

Since the end of the year the Company increased its interests in the U.S.A. by a major acquisition, namely the purchase for

\$22,150,000 in cash of the whole of the share capital of Southern Clay Products Inc. of Texas. This company, largely complementary to the Clay Division, mines and processes bentonite, talc, and ball clays for sale to a wide range of industries. Our technologies already developed will enhance the quality, variety and scope of these products. Finance for this purchase has been provided by a £16,000,000 floating rate ten year loan from a syndicate comprised of our various bankers; it is repayable at our option earlier.

BUILDING DIVISION
The emphasis, in the activities of the Building Division, is centred more and more on the Private Estates Department and the Leisure Department.

Our interests in leisure have been further enhanced by the acquisition of two more caravan parks and the development and modernisation of the facilities at those we already had.

QUARRIES DIVISION
Demand was brisk for aggregates and concrete products in connection with new building, a market which takes nearly half the Quarries Division's output. The Division had an excellent year, heaped by the pressing need to repair road surfaces in the south-west after the severe damage they suffered through last winter's snow and frost. It is regrettable that this Government has maintained, and indeed increased, the previous Government's out back on the programme for new roads and motorways.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The 61st Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, London, SW1 on Wednesday 20th February 1980 at 12.30 p.m.

Business appointments

New Northern Engineering chairman

Mr Duncan McDonald has been appointed executive chairman of Northern Engineering Industries in succession to Sir James Woodhouse. Mr McDonald was previously group managing director.

Mr Edmond Macdonald, chairman of Blue Bird Confectionery Holdings, succeeding Mr S. T. Bridgewater, who becomes deputy chairman and who continues as managing director of the company. Mr Nassar is also to become chairman of Jantar in succession to Mr Jonathan Janson, who is appointed deputy chairman of the company. Both Mr Janson and Mr Bridgewater have joined the board of Pioneer International Group Services.

Mr S. T. Bridgewater has joined the board of Jantar and Mr Jonathan Janson the board of Blue Bird Confectionery Holdings. Mr Kenneth Jamieson has been made managing director of Eurocom Data.

Mr H. A. Burch has recently been appointed to the board of Lynton Commercial Units.

Mr Michel G. Carter has been appointed director of the newly created pharmaceutical division of Roche Products.

Mr George Martin has been appointed a director and chief executive of Plessemars.

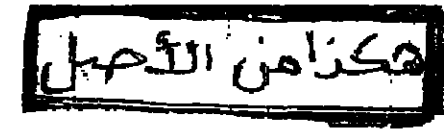
Mr J. H. Paulsson, Mr A. J. P. Simon and Mr C. W. M. Wilson have been appointed to the board of Bume Investment.

Mr R. W. Wither and Dr D. W. Christie have become directors of Merck Sharp & Dohme.

Mr R. Beaufort has been made a director and deputy chairman of British Celanese.

Mr E. G. Cooke, Mr M. A. E. Johns, Mr I. R. McNeil, Mr M. T. Samuels and Mr J. M. A. Todd have been members to the board of F-E Consulting Group.

Mr P. Colclough is to become chairman of the executive committee of Howard Machinery in succession to Mr J. A. Howard who has relinquished the appointment of chief executive. He will continue as a member of the board and as deputy chairman.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Test of nerve in the gilt-edged market

It has been an extraordinary week in the gilt-edged market. On Monday evening it looked as if the new long dated stock to be offered on the Wednesday (in £25 paid form) would be a sell-out. By Tuesday evening the market had slipped back enough to persuade the "stags" to give the new stock a miss.

On Wednesday morning only about half the stock was thought to have been taken up on application. Yet by Wednesday evening the market was talking of the stock being run dry the following morning, as indeed it was at a price of 26 1/32.

But that was not the end of the story. All those who could have had as much stock as they wanted at 25 on Wednesday and finished by bidding up to 26 1/32 yesterday morning were sitting on a loss of just over 14 points by last night's close. The position was clearly not being helped by those who got more stock than they had bargained for on the Wednesday moving to cut their positions and sales of a broker having to unwind a botched buying order.

The moral of this little saga is obvious enough: Institutional investors should learn to hold their nerve rather better. Most of them never will, of course, it is not in their nature. Even so, those who did take the view over the weekend that the latest gilt rally had probably gone far enough for the moment will probably find their numbers swollen now.

Indeed, the next few days could well provide a test of the market's resilience, though presumably the authorities will at least think twice about producing yet another new stock too quickly. Yet if those overseas investors start coming again...

of the Toshiba link and the reorganization continued to show through.

Butlins continued to do well with a 20 per cent increase which would have been even better but for price controls which continued over the main selling season, while Leisure Caravan Parks was in for the first time with a £4m contribution to trading profits which is embellished by the exclusion of down-season trading figures.

There are problem areas still and in a wide ranging group like this they have a habit of turning up suddenly. This time it is Australia where rationalization, difficulties putting in new white good production



Mr. Harry Smith, chairman of Rank Organisation.

and labour problems caused a £1.4m turn down to losses of £0.6m.

Trading apart, Rank has done wonders to its balance sheet, helped of course by last year's £62.4m rights issue.

That pegged back interest charges to the tune of £5m at a time of rising rates and, with preference share issue in Canada, brought gearing back dramatically from 63 per cent to 36 per cent. All this helped the shares up by 20p to 210p yesterday where Rank sells at 5.4 times earnings and yields 7.3 per cent.

That reflects a dividend up by 15 per cent at the gross level, but, for fun, one has to see the Kershaw dividend which is whacked up from 34.7p a share to 124p gross as it pays out its income from its Rank Precision stake and a part of the cash it accumulated during dividend restraint. Those who rightly saw Kershaw as a cheap way into Xerox, since Kershaw has an effective 19.8 per cent stake in Rank's interests in Rank Xerox, can smile again.

Inchcape

Back on course

It was generally expected that after last year's losses at Harbora, the Dutch commodity trader, Inchcape would this year be back on course, and so it has proved. Interim profits are £31.2m, compared with £23m in 1978, and on this basis should be around £65m for the whole year. At that level, Inchcape will be trading in absolute terms as well as in the halcyon years of the late 1970s, although much higher turnovers point to lower margins.

About half of profits and turnover come from the Far East and South East Asia, and this is still the area of most rapid growth. Inchcape has high hopes for developing its interests in Malaysia, Singapore, and Hong Kong particularly, although it is also expressing more interest in North America.

But there are two problems associated with the Far East and South East Asia. One is that increasing proportion of the company's earnings will be in currencies which tend to follow the United States dollar. The latest figures allow more than £3m for currency translation losses. Second, it is an area over which some political doubts hang. The nationalistic trend is by no means spent, and Inchcape could find itself forced more and more to accept minority participations in projects. Similar provisos apply to the Middle East, currently the source of about 25 per cent of profits.

That said, there is still the security of the United Kingdom and Europe, responsible for around 12 per cent of profits. The Toyota dealership in the United Kingdom is going well, and the newly acquired one in Belgium and Luxembourg will show through in the second half.

Profits overall this year could be further improved by the virtual abolition of tax charges after the costs incurred last year from Harbora. With the dividend up 10 per cent to 10.2 gross the shares are on a prospective yield of about 7.6 per cent. At the present price of 349p, unchanged, they still look like a buy.

Washington

The avid American television viewer, addicted to the NBC channel, can see the *Tonight Show* in the late evening, then stay tuned from one to two o'clock in the morning for the *Tomorrow* programme and, after some sleep, get up for the *Today* programme from seven to nine o'clock.

America is the land of almost non-stop television, where breakfast viewing has been a part of the daily diet for years. The *Today* programme has been going since 1952, is a formidable success and has been the inspiration for an assortment of rival current affairs programmes in North America over the years.

Those preparing plans for news-based breakfast television in Britain will undoubtedly have studied the American experience, though where lessons they have drawn remains to be seen.

The *Today* programme usually consists of five-minute, national news summaries every thirty minutes and several minutes of local regional news each hour and roughly nine minutes of advertising per hour. The remaining time is occupied by interviews with people in the news, some brief documentary, type news films and the odd light chat with a popular film star.

The ABC television network started a rival programme to NBC's *Today* a few years ago, called *Good morning, America*.

This has also proved a success and its only significant difference from *Today* is that it spends a little more time on lighter news items and talks with entertainers.

The third major national television network in the United States adopts a different approach to breakfast television. For many years the CBS network has been showing children the adventures of *Captain Kangaroo* from eight to nine o'clock. This is so popular that CBS cannot match the two-hour current affairs programmes of its rivals, but presents, instead, a hard-hitting one-hour news programme from seven to eight o'clock.

Prime time

Are these current affairs programmes a success? Nearly 74.5 million American households have television sets and some 50 to 70 per cent of them are switched on between eight and eleven o'clock at night to watch what are popularly called in the United States "the prime time shows".

ABC, NBC and CBS are competing for audiences with an assortment of local and regional channels, but broadcasting industry figures for last November show that during the prime time the number of households switched to ABC was 13.2 million on average, with 12.5 million for CBS and 10.9 million for NBC. The figures for breakfast viewing are far smaller. Last November's figures show

that ABC's *Good morning, America* was seen by some 3,400,000 households, while NBC's *Today* was viewed by 3,200,000. Industry analysts say that the November figure is exceptional and that NBC still tends to be ahead in the breakfast ratings. CBS is watched by about 1,200,000 households each breakfast time.

The ratings war—the battle to win as many viewers as possible for a programme—is critical because its outcome determines how much the network companies can charge for the nine or so minutes of advertising time which they will in exchange for the two hours of breakfast programmes. Finding precise figures is difficult. NBC, for example, often sells advertising time in packages to companies, so that one firm will agree to take several minutes in the *Tonight Show* and several minutes in the *Today* programme for a block fee.

The breakfast time rates appear, however, to range between \$10,000 to \$20,000 per minute, with NBC charging the most and CBS the least. Such figures seem tiny compared to charges of between \$100,000 to \$250,000 for each minute of prime time, but the breakfast shows are expensive to produce, with the annual budget for *Today* about \$16m a year and with advertising time limited in prime time to a maximum of six minutes an hour.

The cost of the morning

shows are difficult to pin down, because the budget figures do not adequately take into account the expenses involved in news gathering. The rough budget figure of \$16m for *Today* is merely "for a simple set and a few talking heads", one industry executive said.

Background

NBC, CBS and ABC all have very large news divisions, each of which will spend at least \$125m this year. These news divisions are mainly concerned with the evening news programmes, which last only 22 minutes once advertising time is excluded. The breakfast shows can draw freely on these news divisions and many television news reporters are delighted to have a chance to provide viewers with some insight into the significance of the current events and some background on key news stories. They barely get such a chance on the cramped and high speed nightly news programmes. Radio in America does not fulfil this early morning news analysis function.

It is because the breakfast programmes pay little for the services of the news divisions that they can claim to be very profitable—at least they can at NBC and ABC. Industry sources suggest that the *Today* programme is making a pre-tax profit of close to \$10m a year now.

The linkage in selling advertising time between, for example, the *Today* programme and

the *Tonight Show* and the linkage on the news side between *Today* and the *NBC News* are important factors in looking at the viability of breakfast television. One of the main aims of these programmes is to help use other resources of the networks to the maximum, while developing and maintaining viewer loyalties. The hope is that if people like the programmes they see as soon as they wake up in the morning, then they will not bother to switch channels as the day progresses.

Perhaps the most important consideration is the one that cannot be measured in viewer numbers and dollars and cents—the quality of the programmes. Both the ABC and NBC breakfast current affairs programmes and the CBS morning news are of a high calibre. They may be a little too involved with show business for British tastes, but they arrive consistently to provide interesting and topical current affairs programmes. These programmes are the only daily ones in America which take more than the swiftest and most superficial look at national and international news.

The *Times* used to have a correspondent in Washington who swore that he never felt on top of his news gathering tasks unless he started his day with the *Today* programme. What better comment could be made about the quality of breakfast television? Personally, I prefer to start my day without the background noise of the television set.

Playing the oil price guessing game

Oil has more than doubled in price in the past twelve months. In 1973/74 it quadrupled, since 1970 it has increased tenfold. The resulting damage to western economies; the strains put on the international banking system; the switch in economic power from the multinational oil companies to the producing nations; and the added instability that increased wealth has given to the Middle East, have profoundly changed the pre-occupations of the developed world.

For a time at least, the sharp rise in oil prices may come to an end. Present production is more than sufficient to meet world demand. Uncertainty over future supplies may lead to continued excessive speculation, but oil shortages should now be able to meet the total shutdown of Iran's production for a prolonged period.

The picture could change if the predicted American recession were very shallow; at the moment, however, it looks as though oil prices should soon begin to settle.

But where will they be in five or ten years?

Two discussion papers published by the University of Surrey Economic Department, one by Professor George Ray, a senior research fellow at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, argues that it is realistic in the medium term to expect a recurrence of the change in the oil market created by the political upheaval in Iran.

Opec, he believes, has learnt its lesson and is unlikely again to allow the world to become awash with oil as it did in 1977. It can, he says, turn the taps off if it wishes, squeeze the West and jerk prices up. Opec may not be able to put the price of oil at will, but it has the power over the next few years to control the market if it so wishes, and will no longer be satisfied with merely keeping pace with inflation and the erosion of revenues through currency changes.

The other paper, by Dr Christopher Rowlands, a research fellow at Surrey, argues that the change in the structure of the oil market over the past decade has resulted in a once and for all increase in oil prices which has little or no effect on the long-run trend.

Both authors are agreed that the longer run trend is the tendency of the oil price to reach a level where alternative energy sources become commercial.

The more provocative argument belongs to Dr Rowlands. The switch in power from multinational company to producer has created a transitional period where the companies have become concerned about their long-term access to oil and the security of their supplies. Rather than sit back and share the profits, they have been prepared to pay exorbitant prices to avoid the decline in their role inherent in the new structure.

Profits have been ignored to keep operations intact. Companies with their own equity production have been cushioned, windfall stock profits have distorted the picture but sooner or later competitive forces will prevent a continuation of aggressive bidding at the expense of returns.

Over the next few years increasing output from non-Opec sources, Mexico, Norway and the United Kingdom should add to supplies while there are signs that with rising domestic consumer prices for energy, consumption in the United States may be either "too shallow" or "too deep" for human understanding. What is needed, he told a meeting of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in London last week, is a form of "soft automation" which systems must be forced to adapt stage into the human mental mould.

Concepts such as strategies, goals, constraints and advice are familiar mental currency for people. And research into artificial intelligence at such centres as Edinburgh in Scotland and Stanford University and SRI International (formerly Stanford Research Institute) in California has shown that these concepts can also be used to drive machine processes.

This work is at a rudimentary stage as yet. But it is leading towards systems which are "transparent" to human users and which thus can reduce or remove the potentially disastrous mismatch between systems and people that exists at present.

What do we mean by artificial intelligence and what does Professor Michie mean by shallow and deep systems? In effect, artificial intelligence is concerned with exploring how far we can teach (ie, programme) computer systems to work things out for themselves, using human knowledge and human-like thought processes.

In general, computers do not work like that at present. Their

Nicholas Hirst

Technology

Teaching computers to think like us

"Artificial intelligence is concerned with exploring how far we can teach computer systems to work things out for themselves, using human knowledge and human-like thought processes."

behaviour is clever and accurate but, in the alleged interests of cost-effectiveness, they are either too deep or too shallow to be humanly fathomable.

At one extreme, the shallow end, the computer system is programmed to look up the answer to a problem (and we are considering very complicated problems) in a table or database of possible answers. The table may hold literally millions of entries—it may itself have been generated by a very clever computer programme—but everything has been precalculated.

If asked why it gave a particular answer, the system could only reply: "Because it is in the table."

At the other extreme, the deep end, the computer system is programmed to analyse all possible answers in depth and to construct a complete "analysis tree" or logic diagram of all possibilities before giving the answer. (The problem could be a complicated scientific analysis or—much used in exploring the principles of artificial intelligence—the game of chess.)

Using this "look-ahead" approach, if the system is asked why it gave a particular answer, it would reply by disgorging the complete analysis tree. Since this might be based on, say, one million decision points, it would clearly give too much detail for the human mind to absorb.

Human minds had too much detail to absorb at the Three Mile Island nuclear plant last March, Professor Michie reminded his audience. One committee which investigated the accident there had reported: "... the operator was bombarded with displays, warning lights, printouts and so on to the point where the deteriorating of any error condition and the assessment of the right action to correct the condition was impossible."

As one observer noted: "There is a system design son here for every system analyst working in the industry—the human part of the system has more limits than the computer part."

Though this particular example concerned a nuclear power plant, the lesson is one which applies generally to any large, complex, computer-based systems. Large, complex, computer-based systems are used also in air traffic control—will this provide a future disastrous example?

Somewhere between the uselessly shallow and the impenetrably deep types of system, Professor Michie argues, lies a "human window" through which, using the techniques of artificial intelligence, the working of the system can be seen and understood by the people who use it to solve their problems or control their processes.

For this effective machine communication to be realized, further development is needed of the so-called "knowledge-based" or "expert" systems of the types that have been pioneered at Edinburgh, Stanford and SRI.

Here the expertise of specialists in medicine, organic chemistry and geological exploration, to take three separate examples, has been codified in rules which have been carefully framed jointly by these specialists and computer scientists to be understandable both to them and to the computer system.

The computer is programmed to consult these rules and make inferences from them in reaching a conclusion (typically, a diagnosis or identification) in much the same way as a human being would.

Once the rules have been written by the human experts, the power of the computer is applied to examine literally all the possible combinations and answers. If the system is asked why it gave a particular answer, it can explain its reasoning processes.

"Human in style, perfectable in accuracy and reliability" is how Professor Michie describes this particular machine mentality. These precepts could be applied in Britain in advanced, knowledge-based, industrial automation systems.

Thus Britain could be the first nation to develop "intelligent" software for industrial robots. Among many other advantages, this would enable technical staff to simply ask these robots what ailed them, when things went wrong, rather than thumping the maintenance manual.

Kenneth Owen

Business Diary: A technical hitch • Goldsmith takes the stage

Given Labour's patchy application of sanctions against Rhodesia, how thoroughly will Lord Carrington press his cold shoulder against Russia?

If he intends ending high-level and ministerial contact one of the first organizations you might expect to be hit would be the Permanent Inter-governmental British-Soviet Commission for Cooperation in the fields of Applied Science, Technology, Trade and Economic Relations.

So far there are no plans to postpone the ninth session of the commission in London in May. Yet previously there has been a good turn-out of British ministers for the occasion.

If the meeting goes ahead, one man unlikely to be seen is Vladimir Kirilina, who led the Soviet delegation at the seventh session in London in 1978. He was dismissed as deputy chairman of the council of ministers earlier this week.

Perhaps it is as well. The formal matings of the British-Soviet Commission were enlivened at the end by an embarrassing public row between Kirilina and Edmund Dell, Labour's Trade Secretary, over Russian treatment of dissidents. Then the man in the public eye was Andrei Sakharov's fellow scientist, Yuri Orlov.

William Goldsmith (right), the new director-general of the Institute of Directors looks as if he's trying to do a Methuen, making his name and face as synonymous with this organization as Sir John has done with the IOD's rival, the CBI.

Goldsmith's launching pad is his first IOD annual convention in March. First of all he has got Sheikh Yamani as star speaker, thus guaranteeing even bigger coverage than before.

Secondly, Goldsmith—a former Black & Decker executive—is billing himself as a keynote speaker, the first time this has been done in the previous 29 years.

He will launch a forward plan under which the institute will become more of a professional body and less of a club. He dreams of seeing the 30,000 members using the initials IOD after their names, mainly by making membership contingent upon experience in business as well as education as measured by participation in IOD courses.

Lastly, as if to bid for a little of the good Sir John's thunder, Goldsmith wants the IOD to be more of a match for the CBI in meriting the ear of politicians when it comes to framing legislation—as with the new Companies Bill.

If the IOD does not bend

politicians' ears as avidly as the CBI, there is some evidence that the Tories are at least answering the IOD's prayers.

This year's conference was set for March 25, months ago, but Secretary John Heston has been persuaded to move it to Budget Day, but that's now put back a day—much to Goldsmith's relief.

However, since the IOD convention was once described as the Tory Party at Work and the Church of England as the Tory party at prayer, it's rather tidy that the new Archbishop of Canterbury is being enthroned on the same day as Goldsmith makes his big public bow.

Scarborough has for many years been a traditional stamping ground for unions, and Russell Bradley, chief executive of the local council, said last night that the council wanted to see a speedy conclusion to the dispute.

The Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service made vain efforts to solve the dispute and has reported that because the management of the Crown was not prepared to cooperate with a ballot of the 30-odd workers in question at the hotel, it was unable to make any recommendations.

Unions which have decided to switch their conferences are the

National Graphical Association, the National Union of Blast-furnacemen, which no doubt has more important matters on its mind at the moment; and the Confederation of Ship-building and Engineering Unions.

Bradley said that his council was reluctant to get involved in a dispute between a company and its employees.

Scarborough prides itself on offering a warm northern welcome to trade unions, but until the recognition problem is solved it seems unlikely that it will be able to regain its former status as a prime venue on the union conference map.



A woman shareholder berated Trafalgar House chairman Nigel Brookes at the agm yesterday over the variciness of the exterior of the group's Ritz Hotel these days. Flowers and shrubs outside were dead or dying and light bulbs in the colonnade were not working she claimed. Brookes retorted nimbly that before Trafalgar took over the Ritz there weren't any flowers there at all. Not to be outdone, Victor Matthews, the deputy chairman, chipped in that the lights were Westminster Council's responsibility anyway.

George Turnbull, chairman and managing director of Talbot UK, has persuaded another of his old British Leyland chums to join him in stemming losses in the former Chrysler operation now owned by Peugeot-Citroen.

He resigned from a similar post with BL Cars, one of the many who went when Sir Michael Edwardes became British Leyland chairman.

At Talbot's Coventry headquarters Whalen will join Filmer, Paradise, now assistant managing director for sales and marketing. Paradise left BL in Lord Stoke's day.

Asked why he was rejoining the motor industry "rat race", Whalen, personnel director of Rank Hovis's British Bakeries, burst out laughing. "The motor industry is of such tremendous importance to the economy of this country that I am anxious to be a part of it again", he explained.

Business Diary's hunch is that the attraction is working in a small team headed by someone who has been given a free hand by his French masters to tackle Talbot's labour problems.

Ross Davies

Lookers Limited

Motor distributors and engineers
Agricultural machinery dealers
Vehicle delivery
Contract hire and leasing

Preliminary results for the year ended 30th September 1979

	1978	1978
	£000	£000
Turnover	69,211	57,272
Profit before Taxation	2,000	1,718

DIVIDEND INCREASED BY 40%

Lookers Limited
776 Chester Road, Stratford,
Manchester M32 0QH

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Muirhead cuts payout as profits plunge

By Philip Robinson
Muirhead, the electrical and electronic components group, cut its final dividend yesterday as profits plunged from £2.1m to £911,000, on sales up 6 per cent to £22.5m.

The group says pressure on cash has been so great that it will not stretch to maintaining the payout and finance its working capital requirements for the current year.

The gross final was cut by just under half to 2.5p giving a total of 5.712p (2.748p last year). The shares dropped 5.5p on the announcement to a new 12-month low at 175p, but later rallied to 223p.

The group, where the American concern Tyco Laboratories has built up a 14 per cent stake in just under three months, blames high interest rates, the engineering strike and the Iranian situation for the profits fall.

The group's major profit earners split broadly between the rotary motors side, supplying high technology equipment for the aerospace and defence industries, and the data communications, whose major product is facsimile machines used by newspapers and weathermen.

Boost for building group

By Our Financial Staff

On the back of a buoyant construction industry building contractor Y. J. Lovell boosted profits by more than a third in the year to September 30 last.

Against a previous £1.9m the group turned in £2.6m on turnover which surged from £62.6m to £105m.

However, despite better margins on the housing side and strong demand from plant hire, Lovell did have problems with its associate company in Nigeria.

Apart from a £224,000 share of the losses, Lovell has also included a £330,000 extraordinary item which makes

In the last two months of the financial year to the end of September, a time when output is normally at its peak, the engineering strike shaved an estimated £200,000 from profits. Increased competition also put severe pressure on margins.

Its data operations were hit by the Iranian revolution. A factory had been set up just before the Shah was deposed. The group has written off around £115,000 on the project but has recovered £400,000 in insurance.

Muirhead was also hit by competition in data. Company Secretary Mr Douglas Buchanan said: "We used to be the only people making these machines. But now there are others and it is taking people longer to make up their minds which to have."

A number of major orders, delayed in the first half, failed to come through in the second, although the group says some are arriving now.

The drop in orders meant a high level of stock being held. The group made no official statement on current trading. Mr Buchanan said: "We are being cautious on that."

Fitch Lovell ahead by nearly 50pc in half year

By Rosemary Unsworth

Fitch Lovell, the food manufacturer, retailer and wholesaler, saw profits rise by almost 50 per cent in the first half. The group added that final quarter demand had dropped.

Pre-tax profits rose from £4m to £5.9m in the 26 weeks to October 27, 1979, and turnover increased by 18 per cent compared with the same period the previous year.

The profitability increase came from higher volume and improved margins in most of the group's activities as well as an overall improvement in the Lovell and Christmas companies' results.

The wholesale and markets division saw a downturn from £368,000 to £298,000 trading profits because of operating problems in the dairy products operation. On the manufacturing side the UK companies saw significant profit rises although the French subsidiary performed less well.

Fitch's agricultural and fisheries operation made a small profit increase from £849,000 to £929,000 with the poultry group continuing to improve its contribution.

Key Markets stores boosted trading profit by 36 per cent to £1.7m after improving volume and increasing margins. The interim dividend has been increased by 10 per cent to 2.13p gross.

But chairman Mr Michael Webster warned that the second half was unlikely to show the same growth as last year's when the group benefited from other distribution groups' industrial difficulties.

Interest rates have also increased and capital expenditure, which is funded by sales and leasebacks, might weigh heavily on the balance sheet at the year end.

Stock markets

Great demand for gilts but equities fade

Once again the gilt-edged mood has changed and as yesterday's business came to a close just about the only happy man was the Government broker. On Wednesday the market greeted the new long dated Treasury 12½ per cent 2003/05 with indifference. Then came waves of cheerful rumour about the presence of foreign buyers and imminent steel peace.

Brokers began to fear a stampede for stock in which they would be trampled underfoot. In the event the stampede turned into a rout. Buyers of

Greencoc Properties, still encumbered with the controversial Channel housing development in France is arousing interest at 12.25p. This is near the 1979-80 high of 14.75p. It is thought that around one million and a half shares have been taken from the market in a week and that a deal involving other companies could be afoot. It is also thought that Greencoc will keep its quote. Guinness Peat has 48 per cent of the shares.

The new long stock got only half the amount they applied for; in fact they had expected to get only a quarter.

They sought to relieve the existing indignation with several distinct waves of selling. Out went the cheerful rumours and in came worries that MLR might not be cut at Budget time, and that gilt edged had risen too far and too fast.

Nobody seemed to know what the Government broker would do now. It has done all its funding, but it may wish to keep money scarce and interest rates high by issuing further stocks.

The long was run out yesterday morning at £26 1/32. By the close the partly-paid stock was only £24. The short dated stock met reasonable

demand at first but this too faded throughout the day. Around £200m of the Exchequer 13½ per cent 1983 was sold at £60½, but at the finish it was only £59½. Not surprisingly, one or two gilt edged brokers thought they had been taken for a ride, but at least the shares in gilt edged jobber Akroyd & Smithers rose 5p to 238p.

Meanwhile, in long Treasury 12½ per cent 2003-05 fell £1½, and at the shorter end Exchequer 8½ per cent 1983 shaded £37 1/16 to £87 1/16.

Equities began the day on a fairly firm note, aided by the strong demand for gilts, with small bouts of buying pushing prices up across a broad front. Gold shares experienced a relatively quieter time than of late as the bullion price moved between narrow levels. After opening the day at £680 it rose to £740 before closing £15 off at £725.

However, as the afternoon wore on equities began to reveal a rather tarnished look

as sellers moved back into the market.

This was borne out accurately in the FT Index which after starting the day 6.8 up went into reverse shortly after lunch to close at its lowest point of the day 2.1 down at 483.76.

Leading industrials followed the market trend closely and were mostly easier, where changed, at the close. The one bright spot among them came from the Rank Organisation with full-year profits well above most market expectations. As a result the shares jumped 20p to 210p.

Elsewhere, Unilever fell 6p to 456p, ICI were 3p lower at 372p and Hawkers shed 1p to 189p. Those unchanged after earlier gains included Glaxo at 478p, Fisons at 287p, BAT's at 265p and Bechams at 125p.

Comment in The Times enabled Decca to improve 15p to 340p and 1p to 321p in the "A" while further active buying continued to boost Rayco by 13p to 224p. Dealers are still eagerly await-

ing terms for the bid although most feel that an all cash bid is now well outside Rascal's capabilities.

The delayed figures from Muirhead were worse than originally feared and over-reaction in the price sent it plunging to a new low of 175p before some buyers at the lower level pushed it back up to 223p, a net fall on the day of 7p.

Electronics continued to gather ground in a thin market rising 5p to 478p. The Independent Broadcasting Authority's announcement of its plans for the 1980s failed to give television shares much of a filip with LWT Holdings "A" 2p lower at 105p while AAC rose 1p to 111p.

The profits setback at Davy Corporation saw a 15p fall 91p while Whittlings, reporting a loss, dipped 1p to 21p. Ferguson Industrial was a bright spot, among companies reporting climbing 8p to 80p, after a 65 per cent increase in profits along with Y. J. Lovell, 4p better at 104p and A.

Kershaw, 5½ stronger at 511p. The share price of Lechepe remained flat at 348p as the company reported its expected recovery.

Armstrong Shanks lost 4p of its earlier gain at 91p as it awaited further developments from its agreed bid with Blue Circle, unchanged at 270p. Sotheby's were again wanted, 10p up at 485p and this split over into Christie's International — 8p up at 169p.

Oils were again neglected although Lloyds was higher at 381p on news that Cawoods

The Divisional Court hearing of Ladbroke's appeal against the loss of its West End casino licences due shortly. Before then, some think, an approach will be made to Ladbroke from a leisure giant, indicating terms of at least asset value of around, say 175p, and possibly good deal more. However Mr Cyril Stein, has made no mention of resigning. The shares are 148p, up 6p yesterday.

had increased its stake while Siebens, a strong market of late, were 36p up at 606p after receiving permission for the development of its Bree Field operations. However, some sources believe that the share price suggests that a bid from the United States may soon be forthcoming.

Gold shares were mostly mixed with Vasil Reefs 5½ up at \$68 and West Driefontein \$4 better at \$80 while Anglo-American Gold dipped 5½ to \$89.

Equity turnover on January 23, was £106.68m (16,738 bargains), according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Shell, GEC, Consolidated Gold Fields, RTZ, Grand Met, Lend Lease, Rascal Elect, Lasso, Chesapeake, Ararat, Shanks, Plessey and Tesco Stores.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profit	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	per share	pence	pence	date	total
Allen (I)	1,853(3.99)	0.21(0.28)	—	0.8(0.8)	28/3	—
Bart (I)	22.24(19.14)	0.85(0.57)	—	3.1(2.3)	2/4	—
Bulough (F)	47.0(40.0)	5.4(4.9)	43.3(42.4)	6.55(2.3)	20/3	10.75(7.7)
Cowan de Groot (I)	23.7(19.1)	1.2(1.0)	4.32(4.0)	1.0(0.8)	1/4	—
Decca (I)	362.5(216.3)	4.56(8.32)	—	0.2(0.2)	8/4	—
Derby Trust (F)	0.80(0.70)	0.00(0.70)	—	10.6(7.69)	28/2	17.8(14.7)
Edinburgh Am Assts	—	52.0(54.0)	—	0.7(0.6)	—	—
Fitch Lovell (I)	291.8(247.7)	5.9(4.0)	7.0(4.5)	1.49(1.29)	31/3	4.0(6.5)
Greencoc (I)	—	0.35(0.51)	—	7.15(6.5)	—	—
Kershaw (F)	105.0(62.7)	2.6(1.9)	—	77.4(—)	14/4	87.0(23.2)
Y. J. Lovell (F)	105.0(62.7)	0.11(0.37)	37.1(24.9)	4.35(2.85)	—	5.75(4.35)
Malayan Tin (F)	2.85(3.01)	0.04(0.03)	2.67(6.95)	1.69(1.69)	2/4	1.69(1.69)
Macarthur (I)	1.6(1.1)	0.04(0.03)	—	2.0(1.5)	8/4	—
Muirhead (F)	22.5(21.6)	0.9(0.7)	19.7(22.2)	1.8(3.0)	12/3	4.0(5.0)
Rank Precision (F)	43.1(42.8)	0.11(0.22)	13.4(12.0)	6.0(4.97)	14/4	10.8(8.9)
R. Smalshaw (F)	5.4(4.3)	0.34(0.33)	6.56(6.4)	1.35(—)	—	2.5(1.78)
Strood Riley (F)	3.6(3.7)	0.11(0.22)	—	0.5(0.5)	28/2	—
Watson & Philip (F)	64.3(64.2)	0.78(0.85)	—	2.8(1.5)	—	—
Warner Estate (F)	5.86(5.34)	1.21(1.00)	6.0(4.9)	3.4(1.57)	13/3	5.0(2.97)
Whittlings (F)	20.0(19.3)	0.26(0.36)	3.06(4.31)	1.0(1.9)	9/4	1.9(2.8)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a=loss.

Bullough profits up 10pc despite stike

Despite the cost of the engineering strike and the strength of sterling, engineering group Bullough raised full-year profits by almost 10 per cent in the 12 months to October 31. Pre-tax profits rose from £4.9m to £5.4m on turnover £7m higher at £47m.

Recently taken over Project Office Furniture continues to be the group's largest profit earner, on the back of the buoyant UK market. However, in the current period the offshoot is going to expand more into exports, which currently account for 8 per cent of its profits.

For Bullough shareholders there is a 40 per cent rise in the total dividend, with a final payout of 6.55p gross, giving a total of 10.75p. On a share price of 181p, unchanged on the day, the gross yield is now 5.9 per cent and the p/e, 4.

Warner Estate advance to £1.2m

On turnover up from £5.3m to £5.8m, pre-tax profits of Warner Estate Holdings rose from £1m to £1.2m. This was before adding £1.7m of extraordinary items, compared with £1.45m in the period ended went up from 4.42p gross to 7.14p.

The value of properties included in the accounts is estimated by the directors to be about £35m against £23m.

Cowan, de Groot up by a fifth at half-time

Having broken through the £2m mark in 1976-79, the profits for this year increased to £1.45m, which owns the Russian Shop in Holborn, go on rising.

On turnover 24 per cent greater at £23.73m, pre-tax



Photograph by John Mendon

Watson & Philip ships by 8pc

On virtually unchanged turnover of £64.35m (against £64.21m), pre-tax profits of Watson and Philip slipped by 8 per cent to £760,000 in the year to October 25 last. The tax charge is down heavily—from £459,000 to £171,000—leaving £589,000 available for disposal, against £393,000 last time. With earnings per share up from 5p to 7.3p, the total gross dividend is being lifted from 4.05p to 4.28p.

Mr D. C. Greig, the chairman of this Scottish-based food distributor reports that recent acquisitions will benefit operations in Scotland in 1979-80.

Cheltenham assets reach £675m

Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society's assets increased by £99m to £675m in 1979. Gross receipts showed an increase of 30 per cent, rising by 85m to £367m. Net receipts were up 88m to £278m. The society is expecting an easing of house prices in most areas and is planning a 20 per cent increase in lending this year.

Ferguson Industrial's £2.7m for nine months

With turnover 40 per cent greater at £60.59m, pre-tax profits of Ferguson Industrial Holdings jumped by 65.5 per cent to £2.7m in the nine months to November 30 last. Moreover, profits were after charging more than doubled interest of £17,000, against £411,000. The final outcome for the year should be up to the board's expectations.

Standard Oil prepares for record 1980 budget

The board of Standard Oil Company (Indiana), parent company of Amoco International, has approved a record capital and exploration budget for this year, increased to quarterly cash dividend, and proposed a two-for-one stock split.

The chairman, Mr John E. Swearingen, said the 1980 budget of \$2.9bn (about £1.6bn) represented an increase of 30 per cent—approximately \$900m—over the capital and exploration spending level estimated for 1979.

The record 1980 budget reflects continued and increased emphasis on exploratory and development drilling in North America and overseas, Mr Swearingen said. Exploration and production outlays will account for nearly three-quarters of total spending. Increases in capital spending

are also projected for petroleum refining, marketing, and transportation functions and for chemicals. Higher minerals expenditures are also planned, reflecting the increased activity of Amoco Minerals Corporation, which was acquired in 1979.

Announcing the record budget, Mr Swearingen ex-

pressed confidence that the company's need for increased domestic energy supplies.

The board also increased the quarterly cash dividend by 15 cents to 90 cents per share of common stock. The dividend will be paid March 10.

Sperry Corporation

Sperry Corporation of New York has reported a record net income for its third quarter ended December 31, 1979, of \$68.4m (about £24m), up 19.8 per cent from \$57.1m earned in the comparable quarter a year earlier. Third quarter revenue, also a record, was \$1.19bn, up 14.8 per cent from \$1bn in the previous year.

Backlog of orders at December 31, 1979, was \$3.6bn, up 19 per cent from a year ago and an all-time high. Orders

received during the quarter were up 9 per cent from the comparable quarter last year.

"This was the thirty-first consecutive quarter in which our earnings exceeded those of the preceding year," said Mr J. Paul Lyet, Sperry chairman.

Signor de Benedetti gave no indication of the amount of dividend planned, but company sources said first estimates indicate a possible net profit after depreciation and other expenses for 1979 of about 30bn lire.

Olivetti plans

Olivetti EC of Ivrea, Italy, plans to pay a dividend for 1979, its first since 1974, and is considering a capital increase of about 100bn lire, according to the vice-chairman, Signor Carlo Benedetti.

Signor de Benedetti gave no indication of the amount of dividend planned, but company sources said first estimates indicate a possible net profit after depreciation and other expenses for 1979 of about 30bn lire.

Briefly

R. SMALLSHAW (KNITWEAR) Pre-tax profit for year to September 30, £341,000 (£335,000). Turnover, £5.43m (£4.39m). Total gross dividend, 2.5p, against 1.78p (adjusted).

NON-BANK INFLOWS The net inflow of funds into non-bank financial institutions in the third quarter of last year fell to £4,600m, slightly less than the £4,900m in the second quarter, but well up on the £3,100m for the third quarter of 1978. Investment

of these funds in gilt-edged securities totalled £1,400m (£300m lower than the second quarter), while investment in United Kingdom company securities was only half that of the second quarter at £300m.

UNICHEM SALES SOAR Unichem Limited, the UK's largest independent pharmaceutical wholesaler, whose head office is at Morden, Surrey, reports that sales for 1979 reached a record £186m—a rise of 36.8 per cent.

BASS Customers save beer volumes for first three months are significantly above of the same period last year and hopes for further progress this year.

ROTESCHILD INV TRUST Hon. Jacob Roteschild has acquired a non-beneficial interest in 5.4m in shares.

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION of Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica-ENEL

(Italian National Electric Energy Agency)
7½ Per Cent, 15-Year Guaranteed Bonds of 1970
Due March 1, 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, on behalf of Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica-ENEL, that on March 1, 1980, \$3,500,000 principal amount of its 7½ Per Cent, 15-Year Guaranteed Bonds of 1970 will be redeemed out of monies to be paid by it to Dillon, Read & Co., as Principal Paying Agent, pursuant to the mandatory annual redemption requirement of said Bonds and to the related Authenticating Agency Agreement and Paying Agency Agreement, each dated as of March 1, 1970, The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Authenticating Agent, has selected, by lot, for such redemption the Bonds bearing the following serial numbers:

BONDS SELECTED FOR REDEMPTION									
5	1654	2612	6400	7310	9185	10997	12344	14559	16880
6	1661	2619	6407	7317	9192	11004	12351	14566	16887
7	1668	2626	6414	7324	9200	11011	12358	14573	16894
8	1675	2633	6421	7331	9207	11018	12365	14580	16901
9	1682	2640	6428	7338	9214	11025	12372	14587	16908
10	1689	2647	6435	7345	9221	11032	12379	14594	16915
11	1696	2654	6442	7352	9228	11039	12386	14601	16922
12	1703	2661	6449	7359	9235	11046	12393	14608	16929
13	1710	2668	6456	7366	9242	11053	12400	14615	16936
14	1717	2675	6463	7373	9249	11060	12407	14622	16943
15	1724	2682	6470	7380	9256	11067	12414	14629	16950
16	1731	2689	6477	7387	9263	11074	12421	14636	16957
17	1738	2696	6484	7394	9270	11081	12428	14643	16964
18	1745	2703	6491	7401	9277	11088	12435	14650	16971
19	1752	2710	6498	7408	9284	11095	12442	14657	16978
20	1759	2717	6505	7415	9291	11102	12449	14664	16985
21	1766	2724	6512	7422	9298	11109	12456	14671	16992
22	1773	2731	6519	7429	9305	11116	12463	14678	16999
23	1780	2738	6526	7436	9312	11123	12470	14685	17006
24	1787	2745	6533	7443	9319	11130	12477	14692	17013
25	1794	2752	6540	7450	9326	11137	12484	14699	17020
26	1801	2759	6547	7457	9333	11144	12491	14706	17027
27	1808	2766	6554	7464	9340	11151	12498	14713	17034
28	1815	2773	6561	7471	9347	11158	12505	14720	17041
29	1822	2780	6568	7478	9354	11165	12512	14727	17048
30	1829	2787	6575	7485	9361	11172	12519	14734	17055
31	1836	2794	6582	7492	9368	11179	12526	14741	17062
32	1843	2801	6589	7499	9375	11186	12533	14748	17069
33	1850	2808	6596	7506	9382	11193	12540	14755	17076
34	1857	2815	6603	7513	9389	11200	12547	14762	17083
35	1864	2822	6610	7520	9396	11207	12554	14769	17090
36	1871	2829	6617	7527	9403	11214	12561	14776	17097
37	1878	2836	6624	7534	9410	11221	12568	14783	17104
38	1885	2843	6631	7541	9417	11228	12575	14790	17111
39	1892	2850	6638	7548	9424	11235	12582	14797	17118
40	1899	2857	6645	7555	9431	11242	12589	14804	17125
41	1906	2864	6652	7562	9438	11249	12596	14811	17132
42	1913	2871	6659	7569	9445	11256	12603	14818	17139
43	1920	2878	6666	7576	9452	11263	12610	14825	17146
44	1927	2885	6673	7583	9459	11270	12617	14832	17153
45	1934	2892	6680	7590	9466	11277	12624	14839	17160
46	1941	2899	6687	7597	9473	11284	12631	14846	17167
47	1948	2906	6694	7604	9480	11291	12638	14853	17174
48	1955	2913	6701	7611	9487	11298	12645	14860	17181
49	1962	2920	6708	7618	9494	11305	12652	14867	17188
50	1969	2927	6715	7625	9501	11312	12659	14874	17195
51	1976	2934	6722	7632	9508	11319	12666	14881	17202
52	1983	2941	6729	7639	9515	11326	12673	14888	17209
53	1990	2948	6736	7646	9522	11333	12680	14895	17216
54	1997	2955	6743	7653	9529	11340	12687	14902	17223
55	2004	2962	6750	7660	9536	11347	12694	14909	17230
56	2011	2969	6757	7667	9543	11354	12701	14916	17237
57	2018	2976	6764	7674	9550	11361	12708	14923	17244
58	2025	2983	6771	7681	9557	11368	12715	14930	17251
59	2032	2990	6778	7688	9564	11375	12722	14937	17258
60	2039	2997	6785	7695	9571	11382	12729	14944	17265
61	2046	3004	6792	7702	9578	11389	12736	14951	17272
62	2053	3011	6799	7709	9585	11396	12743	14958	17279
63	2060	3018	6806	7716	9592	11403	12750	14965	17286
64	2067	3025	6813	7723	9599	11410	12757	14972	17293
65	2074	3032	6820	7730	9606	11417	12764	14979	17300
66	2081	3039	6827	7737	9613	11424	12771	14986	17307
67	2088	3046	6834	7744	9620	11431	12778	14993	17314
68	2095	3053	6841	7751	9627	11438	12785	14999	17321
69	2102	3060	6848	7758	9634	11445	12792	15006	17328
70	2109	3067	6855	7765	9641	11452	12799	15013	17335
71	2116	3074	6862	7772	9648	11459	12806	15020	17342
72	2123	3081	6869	7779	9655	11466	12813	15027	17349
73	2130	3088	6876	7786	9662	11473	12820	15034	17356
74	2137	3095	6883	7793	9669	11480	12827	15041	17363
75	2144	3102	6890	7800	9676	11487	12834	15048	17370
76	2151	3109	6897	7807	9683	11494	12841	15055	17377
77	2158	3116	6904	7814	9690	11501	12848	15062	17384
78	2165	3123	6911	7821	9697	11508	12855	15069	17391
79	2172	3130	6918	7828	9704	11515	12862	15076	17398
80	2179	3137	6925	7835	9711	11522	12869	15083	17405
81	2186	3144	6932	7842	9718	11529	12876	15090	17412
82	2193	3151	6939	7849	9725	11536	12883	15097	17419
83	2200	3158	6946	7856	9732	11543	12890	15104	17426
84	2207	3165	6953	7863	9739	11550	12897	15111	17433
85	2214	3172	6960	7870	9746	11557	12904	15118	17440
86	2221	3179	6967	7877	9753	11564	12911	15125	17447
87	2228	3186	6974	7884	9760	11571	12918	15132	17454
88	2235	3193	6981	7891	9767	11578	12925	15139	17461
89	2242	3200	6988	7898	9774	11585	12932	15146	17468
90	2249	3207	6995	7905	9781	11592	12939	15153	17475
91	2256	3214	7002	7912	9788	11599	12946	15160	17482
92	2263	3221	7009	7919	9795	11606	12953	15167	17489
93	2270	3228	7016	7926	9802	11613	12960	15174	17496
94	2277	3235	7023	7933	9809	11620	12967	15181	17503
95	2284	3242	7030	7940	9816	11627	12974	15188	17510
96	2291	3249	7037	7947	9823	11634	12981	15195	17517
97	2298	3256	7044	7954	9830	11641	12988	15202	17524
98	2305	3263	7051	7961	9837	11648	12995	15209	17531
99	2312	3270	7058	7968	9844	11655	13002	15216	17538
100	2319	3277	7065	7975	9851	11662	13009	15223	17545

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Crdts	17%
Clyde & Co	17%
London Bank	17%
Midland Mercantile	17%
Net Westminster	17%
Rossminster	17%
TSB	17%
Williams & Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 15% up to £25,000 15% over £25,000 15%.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN LAND & EXPLORATION COMPANY LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF SHARE WARRANTS TO BEARER

PAYMENT OF COUPON No. 79

With reference to the notice of declaration of dividend advertised in the press on 18th January, 1980, the following information is published for the guidance of holders of share warrants to bearer.

The dividend of 20 cents per share was declared in South African currency. South African non-resident shareholders' tax at 3 cents per share will be deducted from the dividend payable in respect of all share warrants bearing a net dividend of 17 cents per share. The dividend on bearer shares will be paid on or after 7th March 1980, as authorised by coupon No. 79.

(a) At the offices of the following continental paying agents:

Credit du Nord, 8 & 9 Boulevard Haussmann, Paris 8.

Banque Bruxelles Lambert, 20 rue de la Reue, 1000 Brussels.

In respect of coupons lodged at the office of the continental paying agent, the dividend payment will be made in South African currency to an authorized dealer in exchange for the Republic of South Africa's share warrants.

(b) At the London Bearer Reception Office of Charter Consolidated Limited, 10 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 1JL. Unless persons depositing coupons at such office request payment in sterling, the dividend will be paid in South African currency.

(c) In respect of coupons lodged prior to 22nd February, 1980, at the prevailing rate of exchange, the dividend will be paid in sterling, through an authorized dealer in exchange for the Republic of South Africa's share warrants.

(d) In respect of coupons lodged on or after 22nd February, 1980, at the prevailing rate of exchange, the dividend will be paid in sterling, through an authorized dealer in exchange for the Republic of South Africa's share warrants.

Coupons must be left for at least four clear days for examination and may be presented any weekday (Saturday excepted) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

United Kingdom income tax will be deducted from payments in United Kingdom currency in respect of coupons deposited at the London Bearer Reception Office, unless such coupons are accompanied by inland revenue declarations where such deduction is made, the net amount of the dividend will be the United Kingdom currency equivalent of 14 cents per share arrived at as under:

Amount of dividend declared	20
Less: South African non-resident Shareholders' tax at 3%	3
Less: U.K. income tax at 15% on the gross amount of the dividend of 20 cents	3
	14

For the balance of ANGLO-AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED, London Secretaries, J. C. GreenSmith.

London Office: 40 Holborn Viaduct, EC1A 1JL. 24th January, 1980.

NOTE: The Company has been requested by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to state:

Under the double tax agreement between the United Kingdom and the Republic of South Africa, the South African dividend is allowable as a credit against the United Kingdom tax payable in respect of the dividend. The deduction of tax at the reduced rate of 30% represents an allowance of credit at the rate of 15%.

MARKET REPORTS

Wall Street

New York, Jan. 23.—Led by strength in defence and oil issues, the stock market rose sharply in heavy trading.

Analysts said the defence group benefited from indications that President Carter will outline a tough defence posture in his "state of the union" message.

New York, Jan. 24.—Stock prices rose in heavy trading this morning. The Dow Jones industrial average gained seven points and advanced 100 points to close at 1,100.25.

Analysts said investors were pleased with the tone of President Carter's State of the Union message in which he sketched plans for a five-year defence build-up and announced his goal of a balanced budget and investment incentives. However, they noted the speech held no details. Raytheon added one to 81 1/2, Litter 1 1/2 to 5 1/2 and United Technologies 1 1/2 to 5 1/2.

Gold rebounds

SOLDF: Jan. 24, 1980, 560.0-565.0; Feb. 24, 1980, 565.0-570.0; Mar. 24, 1980, 570.0-575.0; Apr. 24, 1980, 575.0-580.0; May 24, 1980, 580.0-585.0; Jun. 24, 1980, 585.0-590.0; Jul. 24, 1980, 590.0-595.0; Aug. 24, 1980, 595.0-600.0; Sep. 24, 1980, 600.0-605.0; Oct. 24, 1980, 605.0-610.0; Nov. 24, 1980, 610.0-615.0; Dec. 24, 1980, 615.0-620.0.

COMEX: Jan. 24, 1980, 560.0-565.0; Feb. 24, 1980, 565.0-570.0; Mar. 24, 1980, 570.0-575.0; Apr. 24, 1980, 575.0-580.0; May 24, 1980, 580.0-585.0; Jun. 24, 1980, 585.0-590.0; Jul. 24, 1980, 590.0-595.0; Aug. 24, 1980, 595.0-600.0; Sep. 24, 1980, 600.0-605.0; Oct. 24, 1980, 605.0-610.0; Nov. 24, 1980, 610.0-615.0; Dec. 24, 1980, 615.0-620.0.

WHEAT: Jan. 24, 1980, 1.10-1.15; Feb. 24, 1980, 1.15-1.20; Mar. 24, 1980, 1.20-1.25; Apr. 24, 1980, 1.25-1.30; May 24, 1980, 1.30-1.35; Jun. 24, 1980, 1.35-1.40; Jul. 24, 1980, 1.40-1.45; Aug. 24, 1980, 1.45-1.50; Sep. 24, 1980, 1.50-1.55; Oct. 24, 1980, 1.55-1.60; Nov. 24, 1980, 1.60-1.65; Dec. 24, 1980, 1.65-1.70.

Commodities

COPPER was steady. Afternoon: Cash three months, 1.10-1.15; Apr. 1980, 1.15-1.20; May 1980, 1.20-1.25; Jun. 1980, 1.25-1.30; Jul. 1980, 1.30-1.35; Aug. 1980, 1.35-1.40; Sep. 1980, 1.40-1.45; Oct. 1980, 1.45-1.50; Nov. 1980, 1.50-1.55; Dec. 1980, 1.55-1.60.

LEAD was steady. Afternoon: Cash three months, 1.10-1.15; Apr. 1980, 1.15-1.20; May 1980, 1.20-1.25; Jun. 1980, 1.25-1.30; Jul. 1980, 1.30-1.35; Aug. 1980, 1.35-1.40; Sep. 1980, 1.40-1.45; Oct. 1980, 1.45-1.50; Nov. 1980, 1.50-1.55; Dec. 1980, 1.55-1.60.

ZINC was steady. Afternoon: Cash three months, 1.10-1.15; Apr. 1980, 1.15-1.20; May 1980, 1.20-1.25; Jun. 1980, 1.25-1.30; Jul. 1980, 1.30-1.35; Aug. 1980, 1.35-1.40; Sep. 1980, 1.40-1.45; Oct. 1980, 1.45-1.50; Nov. 1980, 1.50-1.55; Dec. 1980, 1.55-1.60.

COCA was steady. Afternoon: Cash three months, 1.10-1.15; Apr. 1980, 1.15-1.20; May 1980, 1.20-1.25; Jun. 1980, 1.25-1.30; Jul. 1980, 1.30-1.35; Aug. 1980, 1.35-1.40; Sep. 1980, 1.40-1.45; Oct. 1980, 1.45-1.50; Nov. 1980, 1.50-1.55; Dec. 1980, 1.55-1.60.

Discount market

The day in the discount market yesterday followed the now familiar pattern of the houses being faced with a substantial shortage of credit and just waiting for the authorities to come to their assistance. The help was very large and consisted mainly of a large sum lent overnight to eight or nine houses at 17 per cent.

MIL in addition, the Bank of England purchased a small quantity of Treasury bills and a small number of local authority bills direct from the houses, some of which were for resale at fixed future dates, and also bought a small amount of eligible bank bills from the houses on a resale basis.

Money Market

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 17%
Overnight 17%
Three months 17%
Six months 17%
Nine months 17%
Twelve months 17%

Prime Bank Bills (1/2% Trades/Divi)
1 month 17%
3 months 17%
6 months 17%
9 months 17%
12 months 17%

Local Authority Bonds
1 month 17%
3 months 17%
6 months 17%
9 months 17%
12 months 17%

Secondary Market (1/2% Trades/Divi)
1 month 17%
3 months 17%
6 months 17%
9 months 17%
12 months 17%

First Class Placements (1/2% Trades/Divi)
1 month 17%
3 months 17%
6 months 17%
9 months 17%
12 months 17%

Finance House Base Rate 17%
1 month 17%
3 months 17%
6 months 17%
9 months 17%
12 months 17%

Jan 23	Jan 22	Jan 21	Jan 20	Jan 19	Jan 18	Jan 17	Jan 16	Jan 15	Jan 14	Jan 13	Jan 12	Jan 11	Jan 10	Jan 9	Jan 8	Jan 7	Jan 6	Jan 5	Jan 4	Jan 3	Jan 2	Jan 1
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
City Chalmers	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
City Chalmers	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
City Chalmers	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
City Chalmers	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
City Chalmers	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
City Chalmers	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
City Chalmers	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
City Chalmers	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United Cities	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
United States	51%	52%	53%	54%	55%	56%	57%	58%	59%	60%	61%	62%	63%	64%	65%	66%	67%	68%	69%	70%	71%	72%
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Motoring

Car styling can be all-important

A stray remark of mine a few weeks back about the appearance of the Austin Allegro has provoked a spirited defence of the car from a reader, who goes on to make some pertinent points about styling in general.

I described the Allegro's shape as "pug", implying that I did not care for it, and suggested that it might have deterred some potential buyers. I suspect that the manufacturer agrees with that view, for since the "mark two" Allegro there has been an attempt to disguise the car's chubbiness by painting a thick black stripe along the bodyside directly under the doors.

However, Mr P. G. New, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire, considers the Allegro, with the Marina, to be "one of the more pleasant of the BL body shapes. Its convex

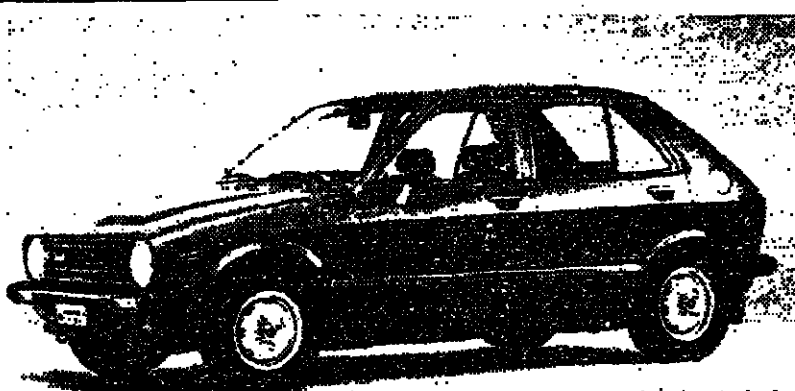
lines give it the appearance of solidity, like a cobby little car". Mr New is less complimentary about the rest of the BL range. By contrast with the Allegro, he finds the Triumph TR7 "cheap and nasty—an impression heightened by those awful painted-on badges". (The TR6 was another matter: that did look like a sports car). As for the "pug", he says, "the kind of thing one can say is that someone must have crooned on the front end while it was still soft".

Despite what he calls "BL advertising talk of sleek, streamlined shapes", Mr New finds the Rover saloon ungainly as well. Why, he asks, does the waistline curve up at the rear? "I suggest that BL brings back Mr Pininfarina—he might make something beautiful of the wedge shape".

Mr New also discusses the Citroën range, which, he considers, provides extreme examples of both the pretty and the not-so-pretty. The most famous Citroën "ugly" is, in his judgment, the 2CV; but its looks can be excused because it is other qualities and in any case it belongs (like the Renault 4 and the Mini) to a separate class of "beloved eccentrics".

He is less enthusiastic about the Dyane, with its "pinned in" sides, and wonders why the "nice-looking" Ami was discontinued. Mr New reserves his bouquet for those "handsome Citroëns" which "have a Gallic and raffish elegance, as though they achieved their superb styling with careless panache rather than meticulous work at the drawing board or in the wind tunnel". He is referring to the GS, the CX and the old D series.

The looks of a car must be



The Daihatsu Charade—exceptional economy.

important to its sale, Mr New goes on. He thinks that fuel economy plays a part but doubts whether performance is a factor for many people, and says that vital attributes like comfort and reliability cannot be determined in the showroom. So when Mr New traded in his "excellent" Renault 5, it was "largely the ugliness" of the Renault 14 that turned him away from what might have been a logical replacement.

As Mr New concedes, styling is essentially a subjective matter. His views are worth no more than mine or yours, except, of course, to a manufacturer trying to sell his cars. Galling it must be to see five years of development work, and goodness knows how much expenditure, brushed aside because a would-be customer is alienated by the styling.

Basically, a car designer can go one of two ways, neither guaranteed to be successful. He can opt for

an individual style that will single his car out from the others (examples: the Princess and the TR7) and risk strong feelings against as well as for; or he can choose a neutral shape, like the classic three-box used by Mercedes and Peugeot, that has no immediate visual impact but offends no one and does not date.

I will be interested to hear what other readers think. Which do they consider to be the most attractive cars on the road today and which the least? And which models have they deliberately not bought mainly because of the styling?

Road test:

Daihatsu Charade

So many Japanese companies are now selling cars in Britain that it is difficult to keep up with them. The entry, last autumn, of Daihatsu and Suzuki, brought the number to

seven and the one other Japanese marque yet to reach these shores, Isuzu, must surely do so before long. With our market apparently so easy to penetrate, who can blame the Japanese for wanting to come here?

Though it has a history going back to 1907, Daihatsu is one of the world's smaller motor companies, producing in 1978 a total of 327,500 vehicles of which only 123,233 were cars. The first Daihatsu to appear in Britain, about 18 months ago, were four-wheel drive vehicles. The Charade, the first Daihatsu car to be sold here, was launched in September.

It belongs to the class of front-wheel drive "supermini" hatchbacks, of which the Renault 5, Ford Fiesta and Volkswagen Polo are European examples. It differs from some of these in offering five doors instead of three but the main novelty is the 993cc engine, the first to be produced in volume with the unusual number of three cylinders. Daihatsu justifies the choice by arguing that a displacement of 330cc per cylinder is the most efficient for fuel consumption and power output.

Certainly the Charade is one of the most economical cars on the road today. The official Government fuel test shows 36 mpg in town driving, 51 mpg at a steady 56 mph—and so did my own returns. Driving the car fairly hard on the motorway, admittedly making use of the overdrive fifth gear, I managed 46 mpg, while in the worst of London traffic, outside the official figure with 38 mpg. The car has the added advantage of running on two-star fuel.

The three-cylinder arrangement cannot be entirely responsible for those excellent figures. Weight (and the Charade is one of the lightest cars in its class) must also be a factor, and so must the gearing.

Whatever the reasons, economy has not been achieved at the expense of performance. There are times when the engine feels strained—even pulling away from low speed in second gear—but 0 to 60 mph acceleration time of 16 seconds is excellent for a one-litre.

The engine is noisy when pushed hard through the gears, but once wound up it settles into an acceptable drone.

The Charade's handling is less impressive. Though, unusually for a Japanese car, it employs rack and pinion steering, a vagueness shows up, particularly in strong winds. Roadholding, adequate in the dry, is less good on wet roads, and bumpy surfaces can throw the car off line on corners, where it displays an almost French amount of roll. There is a good rear-charge and startlingly effective brakes, though they are prone to fading.

For its class, and for a Japanese car, the Charade rides reasonably well, otherwise comfort is in inverse proportion to the size of the occupants. Despite the use of front-wheel drive and the engine being mounted sideways, the car is short of leg-room—and in the back, headroom—compared with most European rivals, and a tall driver will feel cramped even with seat pushed fully back. A high lip makes the boot awkward to use; luggage space can be greatly extended by folding the rear seat forward.

The heating and ventilation system is good for a small car. Thick

rear pillars cut down visibility, but otherwise the car is easy to park. There are two models; the XG at £2,989, and the XTE, with rear screen-wiper (almost essential) and radio as standard equipment, at £3,359.

Turbodiesel debut

The only turbocharged diesel car sold in Europe, the Peugeot 604 D Turbo, is now available in Britain. The main advantage of a diesel over a petrol engine is better fuel economy, one of the disadvantages inferior performance. Turbocharging a diesel is an attempt to restore some of the pep while preserving economy.

The 604, Peugeot's top saloon, has been fitted with a 2304 cc four-cylinder diesel engine and a British-made Garrett Airesearch turbo-charger.

According to the official government fuel consumption figures, the car returns 46 miles to the gallon at 56 mph and nearly 33 mpg at a steady 33 mph, figures very close to those of the Mini 1000.

On 0 to 60 mph, the Peugeot does 29.99 sec, as good as the Mini's 38.8 but at least 50 per cent better than any large petrol-driven car. Performance despite the turbo, is well down on the petrol 604: there is a respectable top speed of 98 mph but acceleration from rest to 60 mph takes a leisurely 17 seconds. The car costs £9,508.

Mercedes-Benz also makes a turbocharged diesel, based on its three-litre, five-cylinder engine, but only for sale in the United States.

Peter Waymark



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Automatic. 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